

OME of last week's racing at Liverpool was, I think, of more than ordinary interest, sufficiently so to make it worth one's while to discuss it in detail. What, for instance, are we to think of the running of Aboyeur and Louvois? - the former the winner (the official winner) of the Derby, the latter beaten only by a neck in the great classic race. In the St. George's Stakes on Wednesday last Aboyeur had to give 10lb. to Aghdoe. That he was thought to be capable of doing so was shown by the betting, for whereas 5 to 4 was laid on Mr. A. P. Cunliffe's colt, 6 to 1 was laid against Aghdoe; but the Derby winner was beaten by five lengths. Here is Aghdoe's previous form. Won the Carlton Plate at Manchester (a mile) by a length and a-half, giving 11lb. to Young Pegasus; finished five and a-half lengths behind Fairy King (receiving 5lb.) in the Hurst Park Plate (a mile); unplaced in the Trial Stakes at Ascot (a few yards short of a mile) behind Lomond (9st. 6lb.), Santair (7st. 8lb.) and Halos (6st. 11lb.), was receiving 26lb. from the winner and giving 11lb. to Halos (like himself a three year old), and the Derby winner gets a five-length beating when trying to give Aghdoe 10lb.! On the face of it here is form which makes the Derby winner out to be a very poor-class colt; but there is the possibility that Aghdoe may have made very considerable improve-

ment, and there is something more than possibility that Aboyeur (a son of Desmond) may have still in memory the severe effort he was called on to make at Epsom. To the consideration of these three propositions I will presently return. Meantime let us see what Louvois did. At this time of the year, at a mile and a quarter a four year old is calculated to be about 12lb. better than a three year old of the same class. Now here is the result of the race for the Atlantic Stakes, a mile and a quarter: Junior (four years, 8st. 7lb.), Rattlejack (four years, 8st. 2lb.) and Louvois (three years, 8st. 12lb.). Won by three lengths; a head

between the second and the third. Louvois—beaten a neck in the Derby—had therefore about 7lb. the worse of the weight with Junior and 2lb. with Rattlejack. Making fair allowance for the weight, we get it that at weight for age Louvois is about—not quite—as good as Junior and a head in front of Rattlejack, a proposition which, if correct—as I believe it to be—and taken in conjunction with the running of Aboyeur, as already mentioned, seems to me to tell strongly in favour of the notion that, as I have frequently suggested in my weekly notes, even the best of this year's three year olds are of very poor account. Nor do I know that much consolation—as to the quality of our three year olds—is to be gathered from the running of Shogun, for although he has won both the races for which he has run since—owing, probably enough, to interference—he failed to get a place in the Derby. All that he has done has been to beat St. Meriadoc by a neck for the Gold

Vase and to beat Jameson—to whom he was giving 6lb.—by three parts of a length in the Knowsley Dinner Stakes last week. In fact, the more it is examined in the light of subsequent running, the worse does the Derby form appear, and the more difficult does it become to classify the three year olds. Referring back for a moment to the running of Aboyeur behind Aghdoe, I might mention that Aghdoe is engaged in the St. Leger, a race which he might well win " if "—the " if " is a big one—there was any truth in the form as between him and Aboyeur in the St. George's Stakes. He is by Fariman 9 out of Ardeen 17, by Winkfield (5), and Fariman is by Gallinule 19.

As to the two year olds it is yet early days to come to a definite conclusion about them, so at least I think, and it may be, too, that there will be some difficulty in assigning his proper position to even such a colt as The Tetrarch seems to be; meantime there is a new-comer to greet and to examine—Glorvina by name, winner of the Mersey Stakes at Liverpool, and an own sister to Craganour. She was bred by the late Sir Tatton Sykes and bought by Lord Derby at the sale of the Sledmere yearlings for 3,000 guineas. Seeing that it was her first attempt it was a smart performance, and if she stands training she should do well enough at racing, while as a brood mare later on she ought to be worth all the money

paid for her as a What she yearling. did last week was to beat Princess Dorrie by two lengths, Siller, a head away, for third place. Allowing, say, 6lb. for the beating given to Princess Dorrie, roughly speaking, we might, I think, put Glorvina about 3lb. behind La Marquise, but she may be better than that, for she won "all the way," and it is not unreasonable to suppose that she may improve. Hapsburg, by Desmond out of Altesse — another of last year's Sledmere yearlings -earned his third winning bracket when he won the Great Lancashire Breeders' Produce Stakes, and well he earned



Rouch. HAPSBURG.

Winner of the Great Lancashire Breeders' Produce Stakes at Liverpool.

it too, for he was giving 9lb. to Longtown—another of the Sledmere yearlings—and 21lb. to Dan Russel—belonging to Lord Derby, and, as was Glorvina, making his first appearance on a race-course—a nicely-bred colt he is, too, by Chaucer (1) out of Hettie Sorrel (1), by Peter 9.

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At Hurst Park on Friday another Sledmere bred two year old—Evansdale—bought by Mr. Kennedy Jones for 3,400 guineas, tried to win a race, but could only get second to His Majesty's filly, La Marquise. His turn will, however, come, and that in all probability before very long, for he is now beginning to thicken and put on muscle. Some mention, too, might be made of Captain Michael Hughes' game little three year old, Queen Ena, winner of the Park Handicap, a mile and five furlongs. She is only a pony—not more than 14h. 3in. in height—but she is very true in make and shape, and as game and honest as possible. She

is by St. Frusquin 22 out of Queen's Wake (1), by Queen's Birthday 11, and so is bred for both stamina and speed. A propos of game and honest race-horses, was ever one more entitled to be so called than Long Set? If it is possible for him to win he will not be denied. Some of his performances have been really woncerful, not the least so, perhaps, the style in which, with 9st. 4lb. in the saddle, he beat Bachelor's Hope (8st. 3lb.) by four lengths for the Liverpool Cup last week, Drinmore, winner of the City and Suburban (7st. 12lb.), and Thistleton (7st. 3lb.) being unplaced.

Two brief announcements in last week's Calendar will be read with interest by many, and with something akin to surprise by racing men of the older school. The first tells us that the famous old firm of Weatherby and Sons are leaving

the well known establishment in Old Burlington Street and settling down in Cavendish Square; the other, that Kingsclere is for sale. What this latter announcement may portend I do not know, but am glad to hear from Mr. Waugh that where he goes the horses now under his care at Kingsclere will follow. Therefore, I take it, we may assume that neither the Duke of Portland nor the Duke of Westminster intend to abandon racing—but Kingsclere is for sale!

#### CORRESPONDENCE.

#### THE BARB.

SIR,—In reference to Mr. G. D. Armour's letter on the Morocco Barb, I am sending you a few photographs which may be of interest to your readers. A was a golden dun with black points, about 15h., a very rare colour in Morocco; B was a bay with black points, about 14h. 2in.; C was a grey, 14h. 3in. (this photograph was taken four years after importa-

about x4h. zin.; C was a grey, 14h. zin. (this photograph was taken four years after importation into this country); D, a chestnut, 14h. zin., photograph taken when in the rough in South Morocco; E, same as preceding, taken a few years later in London. You will notice what excellent shoulders and high withers they all have. They all had long necks, but this is not very apparent because, being stallions, their necks were somewhat heavy. They were all more or less goose-rumped, and their hindquarters rather too long. C and E I bought in South Morocco, and they were about five years old when imported here. Although they had never seen a carriage or a bicycle, they never took the slightest notice of street traffic from the moment they landed. They were poor at the trot, like the rest of their kind, but fast walkers, very hardy and extremely fast. They would start from the halt into a breakneck gallop if you rose in the saddle and pressed their sides, and as suddenly stop if required. They were very comfortable rides, being always well collected and with a light forehand, and they had the most perfect manners at all occasions. Roughly speaking, each province has its own type, and it is not difficult to tell where a horse comes from. South-east of the Atlas there is little herbage, and horses are fed on barley and dates. This feeding develops an animal very much like a weedy thoroughbred—slack in the loins, long-legged, slim and with long, thin neck, including the stallions. In the hilly South you get small horses, 14h. zin. to 14h. zin., like B and C. In the rich centre Provinces you get the same type but z5h. to z6h., some attaining a fair amount of bone with some coarseness, while others have a singularly beautiful outline. In the hilly North you get a pony type, but plainer in shape with shorter necks and inclined to be cow-hocked, ranging from 13h. zin. to 14h. zin. These are sure footed and weight-carriers. Generally the points of the Barb are: The fore-half of the body excellent, with well shaped, small head,



A CHESTNUT BARB.

legs too long and hocks too poor for jumping. Temperament: Very gentle and good tempered, never known to lose control, handy, tractable, good mannered, fast, capable of great endurance and privations. If highly fed, very courageous and dashing, will not swerve. As to similarity to our thorough-breds—yes, to the type represented by, say, Sainfoin. If the latter were to be seen in Morccco every horseman would mistake him for a very fine Barb. But then there is no denying the fact that such limbs and quarters are not to be found in Morocco.— John M. Schmidl de Moraville.

[We have pleasure in reproducing one of the photographs alluded to by our correspondent. The others are interesting, but not very suitable for reproduction.—Ep.]

#### THE MONKEY SEAT.

SIR,—Since sending you the drawing of the "monkey seat," I saw the enclosed cutting from an American paper. The photograph shows that the



A FINISH IN AMERICA.

position of the jockey's hands is much more ridiculous than even my sketch of a finish.— $G.\ D.\ Armour.$ 

#### AGRICULTURAL WAGES IN HERTS.

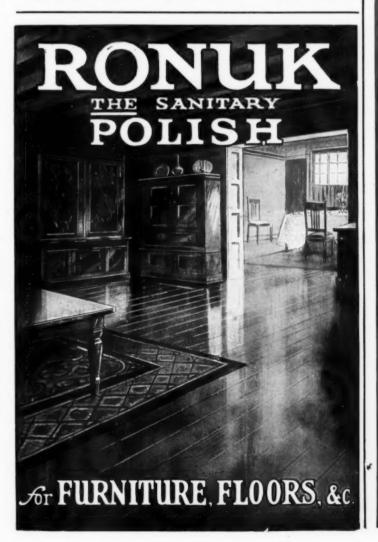
EW other questions are arousing so much interest at the present moment as those connected with the position of the agricultural labourer and the rates of wages he receives. While it is generally admitted by all those who know anything of rural conditions that the wages of agricultural labourers must of necessity be raised, there is great divergence of opinion as to the actual wages paid in various countries and also as to the rise that has taken place during the last few years. Some months ago I made enquiries in several villages on the western border of the county of Hertford, within a radius of ten miles from my own home, as to the actual rates paid, and some of my findings might be of value in the discussions that are now taking place. The following table shows the rates of wages now paid, together with the rises recorded in the last few years.

together	with	ne rises record	ied ii	the last few years.					
Village	Pro	sent rate of wa	iges.	Rise recorded (if any).					
No. 1	0.0	16s. to 20s.	4.0	A slight increase, very local.					
No. 2	0.0	15s. to 16s.		No change.					
No. 3	0.0	168.	0.0	A slight general rise.					
No. 4		16s.	0 0	A general rise of several shillings.					
No. 5	* *	138.		A general rise of 1s.					
No. 6		178.		No change recorded.					
No. 7		16s.	0 0	No rise.					
No. 8		138.		No rise.					
No. o		x66		No rise					

These figures refer to ordinary agricultural labourers alone, and the agricultural conditions in the villages are very similar, only two, Nos. 3 and 6, being in proximity to towns. They clearly show, moreover, that considerable differences exist in the rates of wages paid within a comparatively small area, and the quent impossibility of dogmatising as to the actual earnings of rural workers They also prove that however agricultural wages may be determined, it is not by the ordinary laws which regulate wages in other industries. Village No. 1 is the most interesting example, because here the increase is reported to have taken the most interesting example, because here the increase is reported to have taken place on a few of the larger farms alone, while the rest of the labourers are still receiving the old lower wage; it appears as if these few farmers have raised wages to attract the best labourers in the village and because they are convinced of the ineffectiveness of badly paid labour. In village No. 3 the expansion of the neighbouring town will have caused wages to rise, and in village No. 5 the opening of a new factory and the expansion of existing mills will have caused the rise. Village No. 4 is the only one in which wages appear to have risen without some outside influence being at work. General conclusions from particular examples never afford sound bases upon which to build up arguments, but these figures certainly appear to bear out the contention that agricultural wages have only risen to a very limited extent during the last few years, and that whatever rises have taken place have generally been due to external influences not within the control of the farmer or the labourer. It must also be borne in mind that, even if cash wages have risen in certain areas, real wages have not gone up to a corresponding degree, and it is doubtful if the labourer to-day is, economically, so well off as a few years ago. It is always matter for regret when the Legislature enters into the realms of economics, but both political parties feel bound to consider what action Parliament should take to raise the wages of agricultural labour. Such a rise can only be effected with great care and with much deliberation, for both employers and employés would be seriously affected by any too sudden or too rapid movement in this direction. HUGH ARONSON.



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HE work done at Little Lodge by Mr. Godfrey illustrates in the main two good points which should always be considered when a little old cottage is to be altered and enlarged, viz., change of entrance and the re-

use of old materials. A main entrance on the south side destroys the privacy which is so desirable on the chief garden front. Little Lodge was entered originally by what is now the garden door into the living-room. The staircase went up from the north-east corner of that room to the bedrooms, and the space occupied now by the sitting-room and staircase passage was occupied by two store-rooms. The present kitchen is an enlargement of the old scullery. Mr. Godfrey built an altogether new staircase in a round projection, added a drawing-room with bedroom and dressing-room on the east side. The new kitchen offices wing, with, over it, a bathroom and maid's bedroom, turned the original oblong into the present "L"-shaped house. Little Lodge, therefore, now follows the accepted modern practice of having the entrance on the north side, which leaves the south side private. With regard to materials, the original staircase, the partition dividing the two old store-rooms, and the east wall of the cottage against which the new drawing-room was built, provided practically all the oak needed for the external half-timber work of the additions. Thus it happens that the reconstruction necessary to

turn a labourer's cottage into a little house and its equipment for the needs of modern life, was encompassed with the use of new material only where it is not seen. This

delivered Mr. Godfrey from the need of following the strange devices often employed to make new materials look like old. At the same time, the reversing of the plan was devised so neatly that the minimum of alteration has been made in the old structure,



THE SOUTH SIDE.

"COUNTRY LIFE."

The fire-opening in the living-room was rearranged by removing the old cooking apparatus and making a fireplace with a brick hood, which goes far to defeat the smoky tendencies



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of open grates. Even for the making of this hood old materials were available. Several courses of bricks were taken from the top of the old well. As these had been made with a slight curve they were perfectly adapted for their new position. There were, however, other difficulties to face which are by no means unusual when such a cottage is altered. The rooms downstairs were less than six feet in height from the floor to the under side of the ceiling beams. ground level was therefore lowered rather more than a foot, the walls were underpinned, and a broad terrace was cut out on the south side where the ground was eighteen inches above the new floor level. This broad walk, paved with brick and stone, ensures dry interiors, and prevents the cottage looking as though it had been dug out

of the ground. As first built, the walls had a base of rough stone with brick up to the first floor level, and wood framing above. The timbers showed on the north side, but were covered with weather-boarding on the south, and Mr. Godfrey



Comments

LITTLE LODGE FROM THE NORTH-EAST.

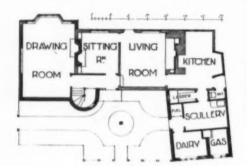
"COUNTRY LIFE."

materials is sometimes criticised as being an archæological fad. This criticism seems reasonable enough when old houses are demolished for the sole purpose of giving a sham air of antiquity to buildings otherwise new. In a case like

Little Lodge, however, not only were the old oak beams taken from partitions which had survived their usefulness, but they themselves, when examined, showed clear evidence that they had been used for some earlier building. Nothing more, therefore, has been done than to take a leaf out of the book of the old builder of the sixteenth century, who left Little Lodge as Mr. Godfrey found it. The beams of the living-room needed nothing more than to be cleansed of infinite coats of whitewash. There is a practical thought in the provison of a movable section in the floor of the passage over the kitchen lobby. A little winding staircase is almost impossible for the transit of furniture, but by lifting

this movable section, which is in effect a large unhinged trapdoor, furniture can easily be pulled up to the first-floor level.

It was necessary for the proper showing of the building itself that the photographs should be taken in the winter, as



NEW BED R\*\* BED R\*\* BED R\*\* BED R\*\* BED R\*\* WC.II BATHO NEW MAIDS R\*\*

GROUND AND FIRST FLOOR PLANS.

Old walls shown hatched, new work in solid black.

adhered to this arrangement in the new work. The new stair turret was carried no higher than was necessary to provide enough head-room, and therefore does not break the old line of the eaves. The practice of using old



OOM.



THE CORRIDOR UPSTAIRS.

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THE LIVING ROOM.

"COUNTRY LIFE."

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otherwise the trees would have blotted it out. The garden, both on the north and south sides, therefore looks somewhat bare, but it has been laid out in a simple and attractive way. The old fruit trees on the south side were carefully tended during the works of repair, and were preserved by the building of brick

tubs round their roots. The old cherry tree in the entrance courtyard seems to have suffered some deadly hurt during the work of building, for it showed but feeble signs of life this spring but perhaps it will take heart and continue to grace its altered surroundings.

#### NOTES. POLO

THE SUBALTERNS TOURNAMENT.

was a great success, and remarkable for the number of young players which were brought out in the various The Subalterns' Tournament shows us that matches. there are a number of young soldier players coming on. The winning team-that of the 12th Lancers-was not only a strong team of subalterns but was one of the best regimental teams of the season, and worthy to be ranked with the 15th Hussars, the 20th Hussars and the 1st Life Guards. They were a team of sound combination, and the ease and certainty with which they handled their sticks and their control of the stick and ball showed that they had had very thorough private practice as individuals as well as in team play. During the past fortnight the 12th Lancers have won three cups, and it is clear that they have an excellent system of training. Eight officers helped in the winning of the It is clear that the regiment must have two good teams, able to give each other plenty of team work. After watching the 12th Lancers at polo it is a little difficult to see why it was that they did not take a more prominent part in the Inter-Regimental. It is not a little remarkable that the best regimental teams should have been those which were fresh from Indian polo. But as polo is played in India at present there are reasons why the polo players from that country should be able to hold their own in English polo from the first. The differences are, of course, considerable, chiefly in the lightness of the ball and the driving power of the Indian polo sticks owing to the resilience of the male bamboo heads used there. The grounds are faster than ours, but often dusty, and not always smooth, so that I do not think, and I have played on both, that there is so much difference as to balk the skill of a really good player. But there is no doubt that, now that Indian ponies are 14h. 1in., and that Australian ponies and some English ones are used, there is less difference from the ponies used in England than in the days when county-breds and Arabs were used. On the other hand, there is more polo in India, especially in Cavalry stations, and more opportunities for individual practice. a glance at the arrangement of the 12th Lancers in its various matches will show us that the same player plays back and forward at different times. This is excellent for the players, and must tend to give their teams great flexibility. But perhaps where the player trained in India shines most is in his force and easy grasp of the principles of stick play. This we noticed in 12th Lancers and in the 15th Hussars, both of which teams are fresh from Indian practice and Indian training. It will be noted, moreover, how distinctly inferior the 9th Lancers were. They played pluckily and perseveringly, but the 12th Lancers were always, to use a racing phrase, going within themselves, while the 9th Lancers were at full stretch all the time. This superiority I put down to the more diligent practice that has been a tradition in Indian polo since the days of the Durham Light Infantry, and their splendid career of victory when they broke the sequence not only of Cavalry victories, but made even the famous native teams of that day take a second place. We shall also note the way the 9th Lancers have fallen off since they came to England. Officers for part of the year in India, in some stations, have only polo; in England there are many other occupations, and, above all, hunting. Of those two a man of moderate means must sacrifice Thus polo does not absorb so much attention in England as in India. Yet the key to polo, the royal road to first-class play, is practice, for experience has proved that out of a man of but little aptitude for games diligent practice can make a first-rate polo player. The 9th Lancers reached the final of the Subalterns' Tournament, but, as I pointed out last week, they had a simple task, winning all their ties easily enough. The team which gave the 12th Lancers trouble was the 5th Dragoon Guards. The game between these two regiments in the first round was played on the Barnes ground at Ranelagh. In good weather, this is one of the fastest grounds in London, and both sides played accordingly, each trying to force the pace. The 5th Dragoon Guards-Mr. A. D. Winterbottom, Mr. H. O. Wiley, Mr. Garfit and Mr. F. G. Whitehad not quite the combination of the 12th Lancers, who were more certain on the ball, though not harder hitters, than their opponents. The 5th Dragoon Guards are commanded by Colonel Ansell, himself one of the strong, hard-hitting team of the Inniskillings, and are stationed at Aldershot, where they ought to get plenty of practice. The four subalterns who played at Ranelagh are all rather jumor lieutenants, and they ought, if the team can be kept together, to go far in polo. Altogether, the Subalterns' Cup was most successful in carrying out the purpose of the club, to bring out new talent in Service players. It is due to the Ranelagh Club Committee to recognise the soundness of its polo policy. Committee saw that regimental and county polo are the backbone of the game—the root of which the finest London polo is only the flower, and that if polo was to be encouraged it was necessary for the London clubs to do what they could to bring out new players and stimulate the interest of the large polo-loving public in county and soldiers' polo. The three Ranelagh events-Aldershot Day the County Cup Week, and the Subalterns' Tournament-patiently persevered with and judiciously nursed, have grown into important tournaments, and are recognised as most beneficial influences on the style and standard of modern polo.

#### COUNTY TOURNAMENTS, PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE.

We are well into the county polo season, and next Monday begins the Rugby Open Cup. This tournament comes of age this year, and its history is one of the most interesting in the records of polo. The Rugby Club owes its success greatly to one man, Captain E. D. Miller. One may not always agree with his opinions on polo matters, but he is by far the most able organiser the game has produced. He has the distinction of having managed at different times all the leading clubs-Hurlingham, Ranclagh, Roehampton and Rugby. He is a most successful polo captain, and the example and teacher of many polo players of all nations, and he has done much to inculcate the spirit of fair and sportsmanlike play which is one of the best features of modern polo. The Rugby Club has always been a model among Provincial clubs, and has added to the popularity of polo by admitting the public on Bank Holiday. The Rugby Tournament, given fair weather, is one of the most attractive gatherings of the year. The Cheltenham Week is just over, and, in spite of counter-attractions in London, was a The Prestbury Park Ground is a very good one, and great success. the surroundings are delightful. It may be noted that the umpiring was well and carefully carried out in the final of the Unwin Cup, between the Harlequins and Cirencester, the latter receiving three points on the handicap. It was a really good game and closely fought out. The Harlequins-Captain Milson, Mr. H. Rich, Mr. J. S. Mason and Mr. P. Magor-defeated Circucester by 9 goals to 8. The latter team-Captain Rennie, Mr. A. Price, Mr. W. B. C. Burdon and Mr. S. Barton-played a fine defensive game, and Mr. Barton, well served by fast ponies (one in particular was a real flyer), held the strong attack at bay. With Mr. Harry Rich playing and in his best form, the attack must be strong. Mr. Rich is a fast player, a hard hitter, and he proved himself a striker of goals of no ordinary merit, for out of nine goals scored by his side six were hit by him, and that, too, against a sound defence. Mr. Rich is an interesting player, and no game is dull in which he takes part. We used to say that after twenty minutes he was apt to become a little wild, but this certainly was not the case at Cheltenham, where he hit two goals, one the decisive point of the match, in the latter periods. Both sides played well, but Mr. P. Magor, Mr. Barton and Mr. H. Rich all distinguished themselves. handicap worked out well within the limits, but badly when the six-goal limit was passed, as it nearly always does.

#### LORD ROCKSAVAGE.

Society will be interested in the coming marriage of the heir of the Cholmondeleys and Walpoles, and of Cholmondeley Castle and Houghton Hall; but in this column readers will recollect that Lord Rocksavage is the brilliant hitter, the fine horseman and loyal supporter of his side who has played back in some famous teams, notably the 9th Lancers and the Old Etonians, the latter the most brilliant and also the most unlucky of modern polo teams. In the course of its short and intermittent existence this team has produced no finer player. Lord Rocksavage is an excellent instance of the modern back whom no No. 1 can upset, but who keeps his mind fixed on the adversaries' goal, while he never forgets the defence of his own. If other calls do not take him from polo, he has it in his power to become one of the best of modern polo players.

#### WILD COUNTRY LIFE.

MIGRATION OF THE BLACK-HEADED GULL.

HILE camping out at an elevation of over three thousand feet I was interested in noting on the evening of my arrival a company of black-headed gulls flying above the plateau, and during the ensuing days their numbers increased until there must have been well over one hundred in the neighbourhood. Even on the summits of the highest hills in the vicinity-well over four thousand feet in height-the gulls were to be seen, and were in the habit of alighting on the surface of a loch in large numbers. The common gull is occasionally seen in the district, but I have never known the black-headed gull to frequent the ground in any nurabers. It was an extremely fine sight to watch them descend from a height to the surface of the loch, shooting earthward with zig-zag flight at great speed. Many of the gulls were evidently feeding on the hillsides, and as a species of crane-fly was abroad in great numbers it is possible that they were preying on the insect in its pupal or mature stage. The black-headed gull has been somewhat unfortunate in its nesting operations during the present season, as shortly after the majority of the birds had commenced to brood exceptional flooding was experienced, and in the case of a certain upper Speyside gullery nearly every egg was washed from the nests and deposited at high-water mark a little lower down stream. This fact, that many of their eggs were destroyed, may account for this unusual migration of the species, but it is certainly worth recording. One morning while watching the gulls four ravens—apparently two young and two old birds—sailed westwards high above me, their flight showing to great advantage, and appearing little inferior to that of the eagle. This is the first occasion on which I have been able chronicle the appearance of the raven on the Cairngorm Hills, where, curiously enough, he never breeds, although suitable nesting sites are undoubtedly present, and a little further west he is met with regularly during the nesting season.

#### THE GOOSANDER AND HIS FISHING.

It is only recently that the name of the goosander has been withdrawn from the list of protected birds in a certain county on account of the number of young trout and salmon he devours, and an experience I had a few days ago would seem to go far to confirm the unfortunate reputation he has gained. On an expedition from the Forest of Gaick eastwards we descended to a certain hill burn near its source, and followed it for a number of miles, At first the burn was literally swarming with trout up to one pound and more in weight, but gradually their numbers decreased, and we disturbed a couple of goosanders in their fishing operations. There were ample signs that they had taken up their home in the district, and near where we noted them there was scarcely a single fish in the burn. Especially when they have young the goosander must account for a very large number of trout, and it is not unnatural that the salmon-fisher should hold none too friendly feelings towards this bird. Not so many years ago the River Dcc, near its source, held great numbers of small trout, but I was assured by a veteran stalker that these trout were almost entirely wiped out during a season by a pair of goosanders which took up their residence in the district, and after my recent experience I am obliged to alter my previous conviction that the account I heard was an exaggerated one. SETON GORDON



D. Seth Smith.

A PUMA CUB.

Copyright.

One of a litter of three born at the Zoological Gardens.

NOTES FROM THE ZOO.

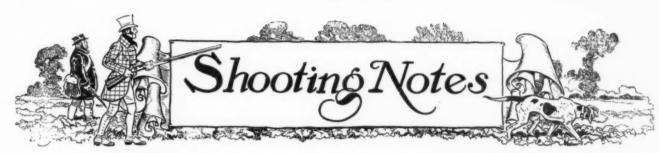
There is something wrong, surely, with our methods of study in regard to animal life, at any rate in so far as systematic zoologists are concerned. Our museums are crowded with adult stages of development, but the immature phases have been almost entirely ignored; at any rate, in so far as the mammals and the birds are concerned. Yet these throw a flood of light on much that is inexplicable, and much that is not even suspected in the adults. Nowhere is this more true than in the case of their coloration. By way of illustration the photograph of the young puma, which accompanies these lines, serves admirably. It is one of a litter of three born in the Gardens of the Zoological Society just five The adult puma, it will be remembered, is of a weeks ago. uniform tawny hue, therein resembling the lion; the young, as will be seen, are spotted; but so also are lion cubs, and at one time it was urged that for this reason the lion and the puma should be regarded as near relations. But the character of the markings negatives this view. In the young puma these take the form of solid spots, which, along the back, form more or less continuous longitudinal stripes. The head, it will be remarked, is also striped, but the tail is ringed. It is clear from this, and the evidence which has been gleaned from other and similar sources, that this spotted livery has been formed by the disintegration of an earlier striped livery. In the lion cub the spots are not solid, but rosette shaped, or, rather, ring shaped, sometimes displaying a tendency to run together to form vertical, tiger-like stripes, presenting thus a combination of the markings seen respectively in the jaguar and the tiger. Markings of this type are less primitive, or archaic, than such as obtain in the case of the puma. Furthermore, lion cubs are much more profusely marked than is the case with pumas of the same age, the spots being very conspicuous on the feet, but there is no trace of these on the puma. No less interesting, in its way, is the young orang-utan, which has also just been added to the Society's collection, for this illustrates in a very convincing way the truth of the general rule that young animals more nearly resemble their remote forbears than do the adults. This is also true, though to a less degree, of the females. If, indeed, we want to gauge the direction which evolution is taking in regard to any particular feature we turn to the adult male. In him we shall find the latest acquirements of the species. If, on the other hand, we are seeking clues with the past, we turn to the females and young. The adult male orang is as unlike

the young as could well be imagined, for he then displays a more or less extensive. thickened ridge, or callosity, on each side the head, while the neck is encircled by a huge fold of skin, concealing an even more extensive air - chamber. which descends on to the breast and outwards on each side beneath the arm-pits. These "ornaments," with the great, ragged. lank moustache and beard and the general shaggiof ness whole animal, make. the orang a very Caliban among animals. W. P. PYCRAFT



D. Seth Smith. Copyright.

AN AFFECTIONATE BABY.



#### FLAPPER SHOOTING.

ERTAINLY it appears to be the experience of wildfowlers on the East Coast that the duck and other aquatic birds are not coming to those resorts in the numbers that they used to-the increasing building and cultivation is all against them-but at the same time there appears to be an appreciable increase in the duck on many inland waters; and this is explained quite readily by the numbers that are now artificially reared, as the phrase goes. It means no more than that they are hatched out under barnyard hens. Flapper shooting, legally beginning, as always, on August 1st, ought to give as good sport this year as it ever can, for the first broods are very forward indeed. It is said that a number of these early broods were spoiled by the cold, but it is hardly to be thought that this can be the case, for wild duck, even when quite small, can stand severe cold better than most birds. What is sure is that for some reason the early broods were small, as a rule. It was so with the partridges also, in many places, well though partridges, speaking generally, have fared. The later wild duck broods were larger, but there is a very considerable difference between their development and that of their earlier relatives. It seems as if the cold spell in the spring had delayed some of the birds from brooding their eggs, although it did not cause those that had already begun sitting to desist.

#### TAME WILD DUCK.

On a river where there are some young wild duck which have been reared under farmyard hens and turned out, it is always easy to distinguish them from the birds hatched out by their own wild parents. The former will let you come quite close to them, and sometimes of their own accord will come quite close to you. where the others would not endure you within double the distance, When it comes to the question of flight, however, and when the birds are really scared, the tame-bred ones will fly just as well as the others; there is really no difference, except that the wild take flight in the first instance, more freely. It is often questioned whether the date for beginning duck-shooting—August 1st—is not too early; but it will not be found too early this year. The ducks have nested early, and the "flappers" were in good strong feather in the first half of July and even before that. This comparative fearlessness of man shown by the tame-bred duck is surely not surprising.

#### DRAINING SUNKEN BUTTS.

Some people have an objection to too much appearance of the work of man about the butt, and would prefer any degree of discomfort and an upstanding construction which is bound to attract the attention of the birds, to the carefully-made and fully-concealed butts that we may see on the moors which we take as the models of management in all pertaining to grouse-shooting. Of course, a man has a perfect right to his own view on the matter. If he takes the line that he prefers to see a few carelessly heaped sods of peat or lumps of stone to a well-made butt, he need incur no man's blame, but if we adopt the view that we wish to kill as many grouse as possible on the ground, then we must ask him to concede to us that this is better done with well-hidden and sunken butts than with the upstanding walls which catch the eye of the birds as they come on and attract their notice to the head and shoulders of the shooter and his loader so that they are disposed to do their best to avoid these strange spectacles. But a sunken butt is only a practical possibility where there is a chance of giving it good drainage. Failing that drainage, it becomes a shallow well, and unless you provide a boat for your guns they will not be happy when they are consigned to such butts. The draining of the butts is not the least important of the works that the keeper has to attend to between this date and the beginning of the shooting.

#### BIG GAME SHOOTING IN SPAIN.

Many people with experience of the near European countries, such as France and Germany, have a somewhat hazy idea of the character of such a country as Spain; and the idea of going to shoot big game there would be taken with the proverbial grain of salt. Some years ago some surprise was caused by Mr. Abel Chapman, when, in his delightful book "Wild Spain," he told of his discovery

of wild camels in the flats and marshes of the Guadalquivir, the only place known in which such animals were to be found wild. True, he discovered that their origin had been from some originally imported generations before; but, nevertheless, they were living, and had lived for long, in a state of Nature, and were actually In many parts of Spain, especially in the mountains of the North, there are a good many animals which are indigenous, such as bears, wolves, boar and wild goats, known often as ibex, which are hunted by the local sportsman with such weapons as he possesses. This Northern part of Spain, as I can speak from experience, has been almost entirely neglected by the tourist and visitor from this country. Certainly, inducements in the way of luxurious accommodation have not been dangled before the eyes of the globe-trotter; but it would seem, however, that the spirit of progress was touching the country at last, as we hear that a number of influential Spanish gentlemen have commissioned the Booth Line Steamship Company to organise a small party of some ten or twelve English sportsmen, who, it is proposed, should visit, under their auspices, the country of the Ancares Mountains, starting from Vigo on September 7th. The immediate object is to shoot such big game as the country affords, in order to show what sport is procurable within such short time from England, and incidentally, I presume, to encourage the travelling public to visit a magnificent country only short of the Alps in grandeur. The Booth Company, in organising the matter at this end, should have no difficulty in making up such a party, limited in number as it will be.

#### THE NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION'S BISLEY RIFLE MEETING.

OMMENCING with the middle Saturday, the remaining week of the Bisley Meeting is mainly devoted to team and individual contests with the Service rifle, that is to say, the Territorial edition of the Service rifle plus an aperture back-sight not included in the official specification. The efforts of the National Rifle Association to appeal to the less expert among riflemen by a classification based upon previous winnings may have borne fruit; in any case, there was an addition of about ten per cent. in the entries for the present meeting; but in view of the steady swing of the pendulum, which year by year has shown increase and decrease alternately, each alternate decrease continuing a downward tendency, which is never fully recovered, it is yet too soon to say whether the National Rifle Association has at last hit upon a scheme which will permanently dam the ebbing tide.

On the middle Saturday is held the first of a series of events open to all comers. The Daily Graphic seven shots at 200yds., the Graphic seven shots at 500yds. and the Daily Telegraph seven shots at 600yds., each with a list of 156 prizes, value £275. With these events is incorporated the Stock Exchange with 250 prizes, value £339, awarded to the best aggregates of the scores in the preceding events. About one thousand competitors took part, and notwithstanding the figure target with the bullseye, reduced in recent years to 5in. at the shorter distance and 18in. at 500yds. and 600yds., no fewer than ten full scores were registered at 200yds., thirty-four full scores at 500yds. and seventeen at 600yds. best aggregate for the three distances, which wins the Stock Exchange, was accomplished by Captain Few of the 5th Royal West Surrey Regiment, viz., 104. This was followed by three scores of 103, and forty-three scores of 100 and upwards were made altogether. For the Alexandra, seven shots at 200yds. and 600yds., Private Rowlands (6th North Staffordshire) made the full score at both distances, and six other competitors made 69 out of the possible 70. The four preceding contests are grouped to form the All-Comers' Aggregate, and this was also won by Private Rowlands with a total of 171 out of a possible 175 points. Lieutenant J. P. Somers won both the Prince of Wales' and the Donegall Cup with a score of 84 out of a possible 85 in seven shots at 200yds. and ten shots at 600yds.

We must, however, pass without further mention many contests for individual deliberate fixed - distance bullseye target

shooting as of little interest, save to the competitors themselves, with the observation that the scoring was high above the average, and demonstrated the possibilities of the Territorial rifle under the easy shooting conditions which generally prevailed. In the Barlow an attempt is made to simulate Service conditions by snap and rapid shooting at 200yds., and skirmishing at collapsible figures at 400yds., 300yds. and 200yds. The majority of the 400 competitors are members of some branch of the regular forces, and a score of 87 out of a possible 95 by C. P. O. Curtis, R.N. sufficed to win The time and space required to conduct this competition serve to indicate the difficulties which will have to be faced if this type of shooting is to displace longer range target shooting of the ordinary kind. The conditions place a premium on running and the strength necessary to manipulate the Service bolt at high speed rather than upon accurate shooting, while the distances are, from the war standpoint, too short to indicate the skill of the competitors under field conditions. Nevertheless, acknowledgment is due to the beneficence of Colonel Barlow, who has for several years past donated the £150 which constitutes the prize-list. One of the most interesting competitions of this nature, inasmuch as it afforded a spectacle for onlookers, the targets falling when hit, is the Cheylesmore for a cup and £25 donated by the Chairman. Teams of four from any unit run 100yds, and then shoot at ten collapsible targets representing the head and shoulders of a man at about two hundred and fifty yards. Sights have to be adjusted and magazines charged after the run to the firing point. The teams run in pairs, and the team hitting all its targets first wins. The Regular Army and Navy teams consisted mostly of sergeants or petty officers, who had obviously undergone a special preparation for the contest, and the results could in no sense be said to indicate the effect of the ordinary Service training system upon the rank and file; moreover, the large size of the targets and short distance did not call for exceptional marksmanship. Nevertheless, the performances of many of the teams were remarkable, the 1st Liverpool Regiment team in one heat accomplishing the 100yds, over rough ground and demolishing the ten figures in 35sec. The 3rd Coldstream Guards eventually proved the winners after a close fight with the 1st Rifle Brigade, who took second prize.

Quite a concourse of spectators was present to witness the Kolapore Cup shoot between teams of eight from the Mother Country and the Colonies, in which each man fires seven shots at 300yds., 500yds, and 600yds. The Mother Country team won with a score of 790, Australia and Canada having equal scores of 7777, but the former taking precedence and the Colonial Prize of £50 under the rule which awards the premier position to the highest score at the longest distance. The following are the scores:

#### MOTHER COUNTRY.

		2.0								
				30034	300yds.		500yds.		s. 7	Total.
Corporal G. C	iray			33	0.0	35		34		102
Sergeant J. 7	ippins			33		34		34		101
Mr. W. Gray		0.0		33	0.0	35		33		101
Sergeant Ommundsen .				3.3		32	0.0	35		100
Private A. G.	Fultor	3		34		3.4	0.0	32		100
Major T. Ranken				30		3-4		33	0 0	97
Lance-Corpor	al H. A	. Man	n	3.3	0.0	3.3		31		97
Sergeant Runciman			0 0	29		3-4		29		92
				-				-		-
				258		271		201	* *	790
Australia	4.0		0.0	258	* *	261	0.0	258	**	777
Canada				256		264		257		777
India	0 0			255		255		244		754
South Africa				250		245		254	0.0	749
Guernsey	0 0	0 0		253		261		228		742

Her Majesty Queen Mary's Prize for shooting by serving Territorials under the conditions prescribed by the Musketry Regulations for the Part II. Standard Test and Part III. Classification Practice was won by Colour-Sergeant C. E. Thomas, 5th Royal Sussex, with a score of 161.

The first stage of His Majesty the King's Prize, in which the 300 highest scorers in seven shots at 200yds., 500yds., and 600yds., qualify for the second stage, produced two scores of 104 by Sergeant Ommundsen and Captain Marchment, the former winning the Bronze Medal after a tie shoot. Scores of 94 qualified for the second stage. In the second stage the scores in ten shots at 300yds. and 600yds. are added to those in the first stage, and the leading 100 scores qualify for the third stage. Sergeant Ommundsen added 92 to his 104 and, with a score of 196, won the Silver Medal awarded to the highest scorer in the second stage, while scores of 187 qualified for the 100 who shot the final stage, fifteen shots at 900yds. and 1,000yds.

In the final stage Sergeant Ommundsen, by scoring 70 out of a possible 75 at 900yds., maintained the lead, and was the centre of attraction to a considerable crowd when the final fifteen shots at 1,000yds. were commenced. At this distance, however, he began to

fall away, while several other competitors gained ground rapidly, Sergeant Fenby, who brought forward 195 and added 70 at 900yds., added 64 at 1,000yds. and finished 329, only to be beaten in turn at the last shot by Private W. Hawkins of Toronto, who, with 194 in the first stage, added 68 at 900yds. and 68 at 1,000yds., eventually winning with the total of 330 out of a possible 355 points.

One of the features of the 1,000yds, shooting was the score of Lieutenant Robinson of Rhodesia, who commenced with three bullseyes, missed the target with his fourth and fifth shots, and then concluded with a string of ten bullseyes, and L. P. Carr of London who, shooting on the same target at the same time, scored 72, also finishing with ten consecutive bullseyes, thus twenty consecutive bullseyes were recorded on the same target. It is subject for comment that in the last three years the King's Prize has been won twice by Canadians.

The Lords and Commons match, instituted in 1862, and revived in 1906 after falling into abeyance between 1888 and 1905, was won by the Commons with the same score as last year, viz., 473 out of a possible 560. Teams of eight fired seven shots at 500yds, and 600yds, with the Territorial rifle and aperture sights. The Commons team consisted of eight serving or retired military officers. Major McCalmont of the Irish Guards contributed a possible at 500yds, and 32 at 600yds, total 67, for the Commons, a score which would stand high in the most expert shooting circles:

#### House of Commons.

	5	ooyds.	6	iooyds.		Total.
Major R. McCalmont (Irish Guards)		35		32		67
Major A. C. Morrison-Bell (late Scots Guards) .		33		31		6.4
Captain Hon, A. C. Murray (late K.O.S.B.)		31		29		60
Captain E. F. Morrison-Bell (late 9th Lancers)		29		29		58
Major M. Archer-Shee, D.S.O. (late 9th Hussars)	)	31		27		58
Captain R. Hunt (late Lovat's Scouts)		31		27		58
Captain G. C. Tryon (late Grenadier Guards) .		29		28		57
Captain G. L. Courthope (5th Royal Sussex)		29		22		51
		-		-		-
		248		225		473
House of Lords.						
	5	ooyds.	6	iooyds.		Total.
Lord Waldegrave (late L.R.B.)		30		32		62
Lord Loch (Grenadier Guards)		29		32		61
Duke of Wellington (late Grenadier Guards) .		28		31	0 0	59
Lord Hood (7th City of London)		29		30		59
Lord Stanhope (late Grenadier Guards)		30		29		59
Lord Holmpatrick (16th Lancers)		28		25		53
Lord Semphill (late 42nd)		23		23		46
Lord Lanesborough (Coldstream Guards)		29		17		46
		226		210		445

The prizes were distributed by the Duchess of Wellington.

#### E. N.

#### CORRESPONDENCE.

#### To REINTRODUCE THE QUAIL.

SIR,-For some time back the question of reintroducing the quail has been a frequent topic of discussion among sportsmen. Never very common in this a negligible quantity, and there are hundreds of game-shooters who never saw a negligible quantity, and there are inindiceds of game-shooters who never saw a specimen. Those who have seen and shot quails on the Continent always yearn for their reintroduction to these islands, for they are without rivals, either from a sporting or a culinary point of view. In one respect only are they obliged to yield pride of place to any other game bird—that of size. Their average length is only seven inches, while that of the common partridge exceeds twelve inches. It cannot be denied that the task of again naturalising the diminutive species in this country is surrounded with many difficulties, for it involves the subduing of the birds' habits and instincts. Success has attended the restocking of Scotland's woods with capercalizie, and, thanks to the efforts of Mr. Steuart-Menzies and a few other proprietors, the willow grouse or ryper may now be regarded as a resident. Neither of these birds, however, is migratory in its habits, and granted that it is well satisfied with its new surroundings, there is little fear that it will take wing bail. The case is different with the quail, in which the migratory instinct is highly developed. No matter whether adult birds are imported and turned down, or youngsters are reared by hand, the call of the South in the middle of autumn becomes so alluring that it is difficult to induce the winsome creatures to turn a deaf ear. Experiments both in turning down and hand-rearing have been carried out in various districts, but the net result has always been nil. It must be stated, however, that not in a single ca have the operations been persevered with, one defeat being usually accepted as final. The upshot might have been different if the work was carried out on number of adjoining estates for several consecutive years. The birds might gradually be prevailed upon to pass the winter and to nest in the country of their adoption, or, at all events, a certain percentage of the naturalised stock might be expected to return in early summer. At one time the quail used to breed freely in these islands even as far North as Caithness. In Gray's "Birds of Ayrshire," published in 1869, it is said to be "well known in Ayrshire and Wigtonshire," and to be "not uncommon near Girvan." So far as I can discover, it has been recorded only three times in Ayrshire during the last quarter of a century—at Greenan Castle in August, 1890; at Parkhead, Fenwick, in July, 1904; and at Girvan in June, 1913. The disappearance of Fenwick, in July, 1904; and at Girvan in June, 1913. The d the breed has been as rapid as it has been inexplicable.—A. H.

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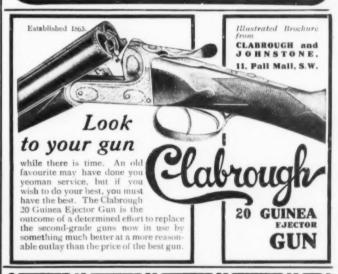


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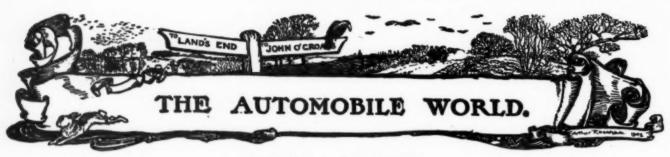
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#### RANDOM COMMENT.

MILD sensation was caused last week by the announcement by a morning paper that the Home Office had issued instructions to the police throughout the country to abandon traps on open roads and concentrate their energies on the prevention of high speeds in places where there was danger to the public. For a few days motorists were led to believe that the days of unfair traps were over, but their joy was dispelled when it was found, so it is alleged, that the paper in question had merely rediscovered a circular letter issued from the Home Office as long ago as last autumn. As a matter of fact, both the Local Government Board and the Home Office have at different times strongly urged on local authorities the advisability of enforcing the spirit of the Act rather than its strict letter, and of taking proceedings under Section 1, which is directed against reckless driving, rather than under Section 9, which imposes hard and fast speed limits which no one observes and can never be enforced. In a number of counties the advice has fallen on deaf ears, and traps on open, deserted stretches of road are as common as they ever were before the Government departments in question tried to instil a spirit of reasonableness into the minds of the police and magistrates.

It would be interesting to know the exact position of the Home Office in regard to the matter, and how it regards this open flouting of its authority, if, in fact, it has any real power to influence the general policy of the local police in regard to motorists. The present situation is certainly anomalous, as on the one side we have two important Government departments suggesting by inference that a twenty miles an hour speed limit is unnecessary on open roads and, on the other, police and magistrates in certain districts acting as if a breach of the regulation in question were a crime so serious as to justify the entire local police force being engaged in its detection for many hours every week. The result is to bring ridicule on the administration of justice, the blame

for which must be divided between the magistrates and the higher police officers, the latter for organising traps where they know that they serve no useful purpose except as money-making devices, the former for inflicting heavy penalties when nominal fines would meet the justice of the case.

As a rule, the influence of the local Bench is very strong with the police, and traps on open roads would soon become a thing of the past if the magistrates adopted the policy, as they have a perfect right to do, of imposing shilling fines or dismissing cases on payment of costs only when there was no suggestion that a breach of the twenty-mile limit was accompanied by any danger to the public. Unfortunately, the prejudice against speed still lingers in certain localities, and one finds the same magistrates and the same police who used to persecute bicyclists for riding at ten miles an hour now devoting their misplaced attentions to the motorist who exceeds the limit on the open road. It is all very foolish; but, so long as the law remains what it is, apparently even the Home Office cannot help the much-harassed driver in Surrey and a few other benighted counties.

Motorists will welcome the appointment of Lord Montagu of Beaulieu to the vacancy on the Road Board caused by the death of Sir Charles Rose. Lord Montagu was one of the pioneers of automobilism, and is a keen student of modern problems of the road. His criticism of the policy of the Road Board has at times been severe, but possibly a closer acquaintance with the inner working of that body may cause him to modify his views. At any rate, his energy and enthusiasm and his wide knowledge of all that concerns the motoring movement cannot fail to be of the greatest value to the Board. The latter has been roundly abused of late for its alleged hoarding of its funds. So far as the immediate allocation of a huge sum towards the new western exit from London is concerned there may be some justice in the criticism, as the work



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Bristol, April 23rd, 1913,

Bristol, April 23rd, 1913.

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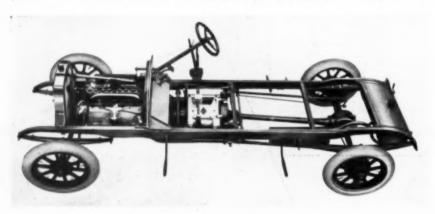
has not yet advanced beyond the preparation of plans, and the Board's contribution towards the improvement might have been financed by ear-marking so much out of its income for the next three or four years. The case of ordinary grants to local authorities ferent. As I understand the procedure, the local authority applies for a grant in of certain works of improvement, and if these are approved the grant is promised. It then remains for the local authority to carry out the work, and the Board, very properly, does not part with its money until the work has been completed to its satisfaction. the County Councils are slow in carrying out the improvement, as is generally the case, the money remains in the hands of the Board, and this is doubtless the reason why large sums have accumulated. The spur, therefore, should be applied to the local authori-

ties and not to the Board, which seems to have done everything it can to hasten the improvement of the roads of the country.

Celer.



T is a fact, well recognised by motorists, that firms which achieve distinction on the track do not always succeed in satisfying the public taste with their touring cars. That lessons, invaluable to designers and constructors, are learnt in racing cannot be seriously questioned, but it not infrequently happens that makers who devote their energies to the production of machines capable of carrying all before them in



THE 15 H.P. TALBOT CHASSIS.

public competitions, whether on the road or on the track, seem to lose their capacity for gauging the requirements of the ordinary motorist. A car may be a marvellous hill-climber and wonderfully fast on the level, but, nevertheless, may be a most unsatisfactory vehicle to drive or be driven in. Those responsible for its construction have probably lost their sense of proportion, and from long endeavour to secure engine and transmission efficiency have come to regard the production of the maximum amount of horse-power at the road wheels from an engine of a given size as the one object to be aimed at when building a car, whatever the purpose may be for which it is intended.

There are other constructors, with better balanced minds,

who regard racing chiefly as a means to an end, the improvement of the "breed" of touring car, and are quick to apply to their ordinary business any useful lessons learnt in speed competitions on road, track or hill. Among the latter class may certainly be included the Clement-Talbot Company, who, with a firmly established reputation as the builders of excellent touring cars, make occasional and generally sensational incursions into the competition field, presumably to show the world that their experimental department is keeping abreast of the times. It is hardly necessary at this date to recall the extraordinary achievement of a 25 h.p. car of this make at Brooklands last February in covering close on 104 miles in one hour, an easy world's record for cars of any power. The performance fairly astounded the motoring public, more particularly as the makers of the Talbot



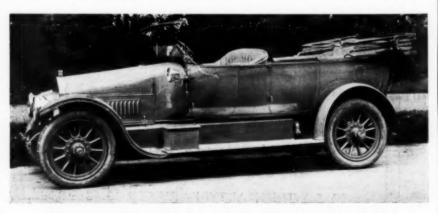
A 15 H.P. TALBOT LANDAULET.

are not a firm which has ever specialised in the production of track machines. Nor could the car in question be described as a freak, as the engine was of standard touring dimensions. This outstanding success has been followed by others of a very meritorious if less sensational character, and it is safe to say that never before in the history of the firm has so much interest been exhibited in the products of the Clement-Talbot Company as during the present summer. It was, therefore, with some pleasure that we recently took advantage of an opportunity given us by the makers of making a trial of one of their latest 15 h.p. models.

The car in question was fitted with a most luxurious landaulet body of very smart appearance, and having regard to the engine

rating, it seemed probable that the chassis would prove to be somewhat over-bodied. The 15 h.p. Talbot, however, is in no sense a small car, as the bore and stroke of the four-cylinder engine are 90m.m. and 140m.m. respectively, and the brake horse-power is stated to be 43. It might, therefore, with perfect propriety be given a nominal rating of 20 h.p., which, in fact, is its R.A.C. or Treasury rating, as the power is sufficient for a covered body and a full load in any ordinary country. The route we chose was one of about one hundred and thirty miles, which we have covered many dozens of times in cars of widely varying capacity. That the average speed maintained was practically the highest possible for the class of country traversed, having every regard for traffic and ten-mile limits, is sufficient proof that the 15 h.p. Talbot can carry a heavy body and a full load without over-taxing its powers

in the slightest degree. The occasions when it was necessary to use a lower speed than the fourth were few and far between, and though we had no need to tackle any gradient of great severity, the car's capacity on third speed convinced us that its hill-climbing powers are of no mean order. When a closed body is fitted, the silence of the transmission is an important point to study, as any noise from the gears or bevels is far more noticeable than in an open car. In this respect the 15 h.p. Talbot was perfectly satisfactory. The clutch and brakes were smooth in action, and the latter perfectly efficient. The car, in fact, is one that it is difficult to find fault with, as on every point of running we found it well up to the high standard which first-class makers have set nowadays.



A 16-20 H.P. WOLSELEY WITH CANN TOURING BODY.

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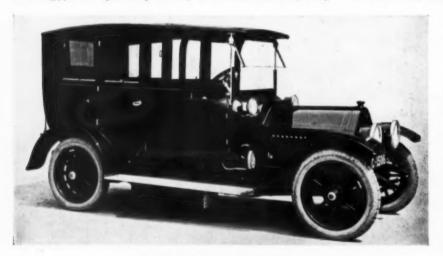
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That the car is well and soundly built throughout is beyond question, and we have no hesitation in recommending a 15 h.p. Talbot to anyone in search of a medium-powered motor for town or country use. The price of the landaulet chassis with a 10ft. 7in. wheelbase is £440, the open body chassis, which is 8in. shorter, being



A CADILLAC LIMOUSINE.

listed at £425. The price includes Talbot detachable wood or wire wheels with 820m.m. by 120m.m. tires, and one spare wheel and tire.

#### A SMART WOLSELEY CAR.

SO large a proportion of the cars made by the Wolseley Company nowadays are sold complete with the excellent bodies made in the firm's own carriage-building works that the photograph, reproduced on a previous page, of a Wolseley fitted with a boat-shaped body by Cann, Limited, is of special interest. It was supplied by White-Coleman Motors, Limited, to a customer in India, who gave the firm practically carte blanche to complete the car in the best possible manner. It will be admitted that the

result is eminently satisfactory, as the car has a very smart and workmanlike appearance. Great attention was paid to the question of ventilation of the body in view of the Indian climate, and the equipment includes a "Kopolapso" hood and a "C.A.V." lighting outfit. The body is painted in the latest shade of grey and up-

holstered to match, and care was taken that every detail, down to the carpets and step coverings, should harmonise with the general colour effect.

#### BROOKLANDS BANK HOLIDAY MEETING.

The race meeting at Brooklands on Monday next promises to be even more successful than the usual run of Bank Holiday fixtures at the Weybridge track. Not only have all the ten car races filled well, but the entries for the 100 Miles Per Hour Long Handicap have been so numerous that in place of one race limited to twelve competitors, it has been decided to divide the event into two heats of eight cars each and a final. The prizes offered have been increased to four, and the four leaders in each heat will compete in the final. Including the Winners' Handicap and the Aeroplane Race, the programme will thus consist of fourteen events, which will commence at 12 noon and not conclude until 5.15 p.m. Among the fast cars entered is Lord Shrewsbury's world-famous Talbot, which will make its first appearance at

a race meeting, although it has a speed of over one hundred and thirteen miles an hour over the flying half-mile to its credit. Mr. Coatalen will introduce his new twelve-cylinder Sunbeam, from which great speeds are anticipated. There should be big "fields" in all the races as the only event for which there are no reserve cars is the Private Competitors' Handicap. Even the Cycle-car Race, which hitherto has been poorly supported, has attracted an entry of fourteen of these popular little machines.

#### ITEMS.

The R.A.C. announces that the next Tourist Trophy Race will be held in the Isle of Man in June, 1914. The Society of Motor Manufacturers has expressed its entire accord with the regulations, which will be published in a few days. Minerva Motors,





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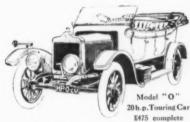
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b a ti





Limited, have already intimated to the club their intention of entering three cars for the race, which will be a two-day contest for cars fitted with internal combustion engines.

It is worthy of note that Sankey steel wheels, which have been steadily increasing in popularity of late, are made in sizes which will permit of their use on small cars and cycle-cars.

which will permit of their use on small cars and cycle-cars.

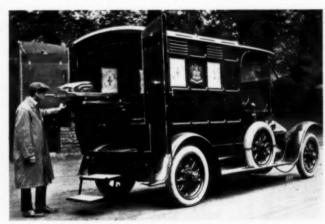
It is perhaps not generally known in this country that the Benz firm have been manufacturing commercial motor vehicles ever since the name of Benz became famous in the motoring world many years ago. The Brompton Motor Company, the Benz concessionaires in England, had an excellent exhibit at the Commercial Vehicle Show at Olympia, and the makers added to their many distinctions by securing at the St. Petersburg Exhibition the War Office gold medal for lorries and the gold medal for fire engines.

The Vauxhall Company inform us that drivers of Vauxhall cars have already scored this year no fewer than fifty-eight first prizes and special awards for hill-climbing, fuel economy, reliability and speed. In addition, seventeen second and a number of third prizes have been won.

The imports of motor spirit for the first six months of the year reached the stupendous total of fifty and a half million gallons, an increase of more than fifteen million gallons over the corresponding period of 1912. It is encouraging to note that America, which was supposed to be experiencing some difficulty in meeting her own requirements in the way of petrol, was able to export about thirteen million gallons to this country in the first half of the year.

At the recent Commercial Motor Show out of the 1,295 solid tires fitted to vehicles in the building, no fewer than 404, so the makers inform us, were Continentals, the remainder being distributed among fourteen other manufacturers. About a third of the 404 tires were of the well-known "T" pattern.

The motor ambulance illustrated herewith was supplied by Messrs. Crossley to the Rawtenstall Corporation. Two stretchers



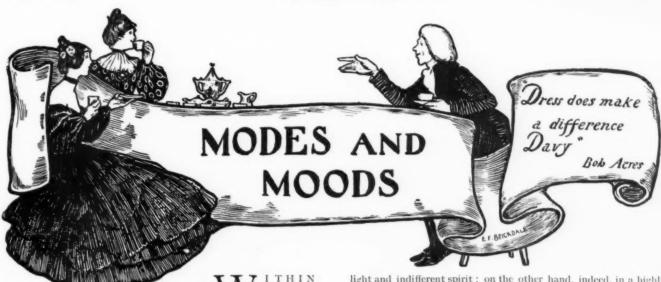
A CROSSLEY MOTOR AMBULANCE.

can be carried which work on runners with a patent swinging arrangement by which the top stretcher can be swung out as shown in the photograph.

Some good motor-boat racing was witnessed from the Enchantress, the floating headquarters of the Royal Motor Yacht Club, on Saturday last. A race for cabin cruisers, over a course of close on thirty miles, attracted nine starters. The smart auxiliary, Mildred, owned by Mr. Ramsden Tagore, proved the winner of a handsome cup presented by the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders. Peterkin, a full-powered motor cruiser, was second, and Mr. Tom Thornycroft's Advice was third. A race for motor-boats under fifteen knots speed, resulted in a very close finish, Dranoel II., owned by Mr. Hutchinson, carrying off the first prize by the narrow margin of thirty-one seconds. Motor dinghies had an opportunity of showing their handiness and speed in a special event, which attracted half a dozen of these useful little craft. A little vessel, equipped with an Evinrude detachable engine, proved the winner. It is announced that the hydroaeroplane race round Great Britain for the Daily Mail £5,000 prize will start from the Enchantress.

So many enquiries have been received by the Oakland Motor Company concerning the price of the Delco self-starting, igniting and lighting system that the company ask us to mention that they cannot supply it except as fitted to Oakland cars.

The prospectus has been issued of D. Napier and Son, Limited, formed to acquire the business of Napier Motors, Limited. The profits for last year are certified at £87,675 and the assets, exclusive of goodwill, at £450,000.



isible

of the memorable Twelfth, those who are personally interested in the initial shoots of the season are severally intent upon acquiring suitable garb, or seeing to it that the necessary paraphernalia for the pursuit is in spick-and-span order. In the eyes of the sports-

man or woman the Twelfth comes very little short of a religious rite. It is spoken of with bated breath and awaited with almost feverish impatience, though it is necessary to live with the obsessed sportsman to completely realise what a hold the shooting season can acquire over some minds. And, of course, in the matter of shooting garb England yields place to none. The Parisian and Viennese tailors have the very haziest idea what constitutes a really smart sports suit for a woman, the while they excel in the more habilée model. And the proof that the lead of the world in this respect is found here is the way foreigners and our American cousins fly to such an establishment as Burberrys in the Haymarket, in whose expert knowledge the utmost confidence is placed. These great authorities have, during the past few years, broken down a host of tradition, while preserving at the same time a perfectly correct aspect. The source through which the greatest variety has been brought to bear is colour, and no firm, perhaps, is more exhaustively equipped in this regard than Burberry. They have collected inspirations from every conceivable direction, more particularly floriculture and Nature generally, and are fully justified in annexing the metaphor colour melody without straining any poetic licence. They have touched the subject

of harmony in dress in no

light and indifferent spirit; on the other hand, indeed, in a highly cultured manner, and have brought to the surface undreamt-of possibilities, which they have applied within the restricted area of sports tailoring.

The shooting suit illustrated is one of their latest creations, and a case in point as to the somewhat daring quality of colour so deftly handled by Burberry. For the skirt, slim and straight

fitting, though at the same time of a width that can be walked in freely, there is employed a hand-woven tweed in a bronze and tomato red check, a singularly delightful alliance. A plain cloth fashions the coat of the bronze shade, the check being again requisitioned for the applied collar and cuffs, stitched with large cloth-covered buttons. The straight line of the front is very pleasing, and equally so the back, where a narrow half-band of the check serves to draw this slightly in to the figure, this band disappearing beneath a buttoned-down patte of the cloth cut in one with the coat, while, beneath, the fulness of the basque is laid in two flat pleats, stitched flat for a short distance, and then pressed almost out of recognition. On the stitched tweed hat, one of Burberrys' wonderfully becoming shapes, there is posed a handsome game feather mount.

But the whole establishment positively overflows with novelties and temptations. There for example, an ulster specially devised with a collar for wearing with furs; also a wonderful waistcoat jersey that will entirely supersede the oldtime knitted woolly. The body part of the waistcoat is built of a soft, woven material, as soft as knitting, and in a sort of tricot pattern, the edges bound everywhere with woven silk. The sleeves are likewise of Urber, which, needless to say, is toned to the material. It is quite



A BURBERRY SHOOTING SUIT.

tmpossible in a bare word description to do justice to this fascinating little under-wrap, which terminates, it should be added, just about the bend of the hips. Thanks to the silk sleeves, the most shapely coat can be slipped on over it, which Burberry can match to practically any coat and skirt. And it is so perfectly turned out, moreover, that the accompanying coat can be slipped off with impunity, the waistcoat offering a quite presentable appearance in itself. That it will supply a long-felt want is a very assured fact, and with it Burberry has, once again, secured a triumph.

I have just been reading an article in a daily contemporary that has interested me profoundly respecting the expense and inefficiency of our English hotels at seaside resorts.

For what it is worth, here is an experience of my own. Early n June I had occasion to visit a rather out-of-the-way place in



A FROCK FOR HOLIDAY DANCES.

Belgium. Only the smaller hotels were just opening, and I chanced upon one that had but taken down its shutters the previous day. It was eleven o'clock in the morning, and the proprietaire, standing at the door, welcomed me with a cheerful salutation. "Could I have déjeuner about 12.30?" "Certainly, Madame." Madame would excuse any shortcomings as things were not arranged. At 12.30 I duly returned and, with a friend, sat down to a well appointed table, a great bunch of roses standing in the midst. And here was the menu: A clear vegetable soup; thick white asparagus served with slices of hard-boiled eggs; veal with haricot vert at one end of the dish and tiny carrots at the other, these served with little potato balls that melted in the mouth.

Then came roast pigeon and salad, followed by the most delicious pancakes and fruit. With half a bottle of Grave, and black coffee,

the bill just touched 8fr. (6s. 4d.). Under such conditions, it is small wonder that the exodus out of England increases every year, and that small places along the Northern Coast of France and Belgium are jumping into prosperity. The railway fare thrown in, a holiday can be enjoyed in comfort in an hotel at a cost considerably below that which it would be necessary to disburse for inadequate lodgings and worse cooking at our own resorts.

It was while considering the subject of my second sketch that I was irresistibly inspired to write the above diatribe. This original design represents a little dancing frock that very few holiday outfits can dispense with nowadays at home or abroad. It is carried out in soft black satin and embroidered white tulle, the latter fashioning the tunic, which is caught up into a little bouffant by a sash of old blue chiffon. The latter again defines the waist, placed, will it kindly be noted, at a normal line, the simple crossed fichu corsage disappearing beneath the embroidery, appliqué on the points to effect a bib mouvement. Very charming, too, is the narrow falling frill of tulle set on with a tiny heading, a dull purple rose being thrust into the belt at one side. A vast deal of attention is just now being accorded gowns of this kind for Casino wear, where dancing nowadays rivals the claims of the tables. A dainty scheme that is going to Deauville is arranged in dull gold crêpe, with a curious little décolleté coatee of gold lace opening on an under-part of fulled tulle, on which chains of amber beads are looped A black tulle hat accompanies this toilette, through the crown of which the hair can be clearly seen, a deftly disposed, slightly wired brim of black Chantilly flying upwards from the face in front and slightly drooping at the back. It seems to me we have never had such an alluring choice either of colour or colour schemes as obtains at present. Blue and a canary yellow is a notable success, as also a ciel blue and a delicate rose. Trianon blue, which is of the rather delicate powder persuasion, is another much-favoured nuance, very frequently used in embroidery.

Flowered skirts of toile de jouy or some dainty voile, with tunics or coatees of a plain material, are quite among the most attractive creations of the moment, and are simply ideal for dressy afternoon gowns. A white voile, for example, will be strewn with a straggling yellow carnation design and completed by a short full tunic of white net hemmed with lace, the tulle corsage completed by a sash, draped deeply at the back, of faded blue satin, the ends finishing in front with a sort of buckle arrangement of the same satin flanked by outspreading bows. A cachet is accorded the very simplest frocks by these assertive bows in front. striped or flowered cotton voile, tussore in the approved smoke grey shade, or taffetas, which has taken on a suddenly renewed lease of life, all respond with avidity to this modest adjunct. belt and bow of black ribbon on a granite blue was extraordinarily effective. The plain skirt, which was slightly eased in at the waist all round, had the front closed from top to hem with cut jet buttons, the complementary holes being piped with black silk. The corsage, with its long, close-fitting sleeves, was cut in a deep oval décolletage outlined by a white tulle frill, the hiatus filled in to a low throat line by a tulle chemisette.

The amount of care women now bestow on their throats to preserve both the contour and colour of this exposed portion of their anatomy is scarcely astonishing. And now that so many are going to court disaster at the sea, where, among other devastating influences, comes bathing, it behoves extra special precautions being taken. All the care of the past months may be undone in a few days, alike to neck, throat, arms and face, by the exposure to the pitiless reflections from the sea and the terrible glare of the sun, to say nothing of the irritating effect which is wrought on so many tender skins by the brine in the water. however, one and all can be avoided by steadily using those wonderful, never-failing preparations compounded by the famous According to requirements, selections should be made of the Sachets de Toilette best suited to individual needs. Perhaps for the particular circumstances in question, the two prime favourites are Sachet de Fraîcheur and Sachet de Beauté. The first is a splendid preventive of freckles, while it assists in keeping the skin soft and white, while the other is a noted rejuvenator of the complexion, helping to refine the grain of the skin and ward off wrinkles. Sève Dermale will likewise be found a wondrously soothing attribute to the bath, and no water, however hard, can withstand its influence. Another selection particularly applicable to the moment is Eau Merveilleuse, which is almost magical in the way it disposes of sunburn, a very possible contingency just now with the low-cut diaphanous bodices that are in vogue. wise woman will see to it that she carries away with her on her travels a sufficient stock of these wonderful preservatives, full particulars of which can be obtained from V. Darsy, 54, Faubourg St. Honoré, Paris, who is Dr. Dys' sole agent. L. M. M.

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#### OUR DISTANT EMPIRE

PULLAH-FISHING ON THE INDUS.

SIR,—I am enclosing some snapshots of pullah-fishing on the Indus. The fisherman has a net and a chatty, or earthenware bowl. The former is on a pole about fifteen feet long. The latter is used for keeping him afloat, as well as putting the fish in when caught. At present the river is very high, and the current, therefore, is very strong. The fisherman goes into the water and floats down for over two miles. Often they will catch as many as three fish in one run .- H. S. WURTELE.

English Market for British Columbia Canned Fruit.

Sir,—It may interest those of your readers who are concerned with fruit farming in British Columbia to know that a systematic effort is now being made to place British Columbia canned fruit on the English market, particularly canned peaches, apricots, pears and tomatoes. Mr. Price Ellison, Minister of Finance, and Mr. Scott, Deputy-Minister of Agriculture for the Province, declare that in the matter of quality the canned peaches of British Columbia excel those imported from California, while, because of the shorter distance, the cost of putting them on the English market should be less. Hitherto, on account of the small supply, and perhaps because of a little lack of energy on the part of the growers, the big brokers, wholesale dealers and importers have not thought it worth while to make a market here in England for British Columbia canned fruit, but recent enquiry has shown that there is quite a good and profitable

market here for British Columbia canned fruit if only the supply be forthcoming. That, of course, necessitates the extensive establishment of local canneries in all the fruit-growing districts of the Province, which means capital. Those who have gone out from England to fruit farm in British Columbia can materially assist themselves if they will interest their friends here in England to find part of the capital required to establish these local canneries. Some initial effort and organisation are also required on this side of the Atlantic, and for that reason I shall be glad if anyone interested in the subject will communicate with me, particularly either those who contemplate fruit farming in British Columbia or those who have friends there already engaged in fruit farming. I want to make it quite clear at the outset that I am not writing in the interests of any particular land company, individual or district, but simply on account of fruit farming generally in British Columbia, and solely with a view to establishing a

market here in England for British Columbia canned fruit and in order to focus all efforts in that direction. endeavoured recently to ascertain, by means of a question asked for me in



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PULLAH FISHERMAN AND HIS DAY'S CATCH.

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For our convenience please mention this journal An interesting Booklet describing our Watches sent to the Public, Post Free, upon application.

## FURNESS WITHY &

#### REGULAR DIVIDENDS OF 10 PER CENT. PER ANNUM ANTICIPATED.

The twenty-second annual meeting of Messrs. Furness Withy & Co., , was held at the registered office, West Hartlepool, on Saturday,

Sir Stephen Furness, M.P., presiding.

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report and accounts, said: "I am sure it will be the wish of our shareholders that feeling reference should be made to the death of the late Lord Furness, who had occupied the position of Chairman of this company since its inception. I can see many present who have regularly attended our annual meetings. To them particularly, as well as to the colleagues of the late Lord Furness, it is, I know, a matter of deep regret that we should not have him in his accustomed place to-day, presiding over our deliberations, in which he always took such a great interest. It may not be generally in which he always took such a great interest. It may not be generally known that his last appearance in public was on the occasion of our meeting here just a year ago, which, as you will doubtless remember, marked the coming of age of our company. As one who was very closely associated with the late Lord Furness, not alone in his affairs of business, I feel I can say, without reservation, that had he been spared to present this balance-sheet, it would have been a very great pleasure to him to have congratulated you on the result of what, as you will see, is a record year. As you are aware, this company was his constant thought, and not being unmindful of the uncertainties of life, he had gathered round him in the administration of its huge affairs, a body of men whom round him in the administration of its huge affairs, a body of men round him in the administration of its huge affairs, a body of men whom he regarded as capable of continuing the policy which he had himself followed, and which, it is hardly necessary for me to assure you, will be followed in the future. I am not the only one connected with the business whose period of service has extended over a quarter of a century, and I can assure you that, when it became necessary to appoint a successor to the late Chairman, I appreciated the mark of confidence, and the unanimity with which my colleagues elected me Chairman of your company, in which I have so large a personal interest. personal interest.

#### RECORD PROFIT.

"Now, gentlemen, coming to the report and accounts, I must congratulate you upon a profit exceeding by over £100,000 that of last year, which was in itself—as the shareholders will remember—also a record year. The appropriation of the available balance is clearly set forth in the report, which is in the hands of every shareholder, and it must be a source of satisfaction to you to find that we have been able to increase our reserves to £1,000,000, in addition to making generous provision for depreciation. You will remember that the late Chairman made reference at the last annual meeting to the possibility of an increase in the capital. The matter "Now, gentlemen, coming to the report and accounts, I must congratuwas afterwards further carefully considered, and in view of the satisfactory trading results of the company it was found that we would be able to provide for the payment of the additional assets without having recourse to the issue of further capital, and this decision was communicated to the shareholders by circular in October of last year. The particular purchases were so fully described by the late Chairman that I feel it is only necessary for me to state that their acquisition has contributed in a satisfactory manner towards the results of the year under review, and as a natural sequence the contribution out of revenue towards those purchases must inevitably add considerably to the value of your shares. We have, as you know, resumed the payment of regular quarterly dividends on the Ordinary shares at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum, and in this connection I may say that I have examined the records since the public became interested say that I have examined the records since the public became interested in the company, and I find that for the last seventeen years we have paid an average dividend, including income-tax, equalling 9½ per cent. per annum. It is also interesting to know that, whilst the average distribution has been so good, we have always paid a dividend, even in times of serious depression when many companies of a similar character had to pass their dividend altogether. Whilst it is a questionable policy to prophesy, your directors are hopeful that they may be able to maintain regular dividends of 10 per cent. per annum. of 10 per cent. per annum.

#### BUILDING UP RESERVES.

"Of course, it is impossible to say what the future has in store, but, in building up reserves, your directors feel that they are adopting the best means to ensure a regular dividend during periods of depression, their object being to maintain the dividend on its present basis until such time as they feel justified in increasing it with a reasonable prospect that such increase may be maintained; or, in other words, we think it is in the best interests of the shareholders that they should know, so far as it is possible to tell them, what the regular dividend is likely to be. As named to you, we have paid 10 per cent. for the period under review, and the payment of the usual quarterly dividend of  $2\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. on the Ordinary shares for the present year has already been authorised and warrants for same will be posted on Thursday next. Perhaps I cannot better convey to you the magnitude of your company's business than by informing you that turnover last year, apart altogether from any of our subsidiary companies, amounted to the sum of £10,777,114 17s. 2d. It has been usual to make some reference to the future. I am glad to inform you that your business at home and abroad never showed greater expansion than at the present time. We have just had a visit from our general manager in the United States, Mr. H. C. Blackiston, and your directors are very pleased and gratified at the progress of the various branches of your business in the United States. Our various services have been well maintained, and the volume of our business has greatly increased. The addition of new tonnage owned by your company and its subsidiary concerns has given great satisthe usual quarterly dividend of 21 per cent. on the Ordinary shares for the

faction, not alone to our railroad friends, but to those who ship by our various lines—in fact, the expansion has been so great that we have found it desirable to appoint a manager to assist Mr. Blackiston, leaving him more time to superintend the general organisation and the lines we run from Boston, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Newport News, Norfolk, etc.

#### ADDITION TO HALIFAX LINE,

"So far as our Canadian business is concerned, you will see we have added a new passenger and cargo steamer, the ss. 'Digby,' to our Halifax Line, and it is the intention of the company to build two further and similar vessels for the same service. We have added to our business at Montreal by the establishment of a weekly service of steamers to Hull, which is yielding very satisfactory results, and the opening of our own office in Newfoundland will largely contribute to the efficiency of our general organisation. We have, as you know, our own freehold wharf and office in Newfoundland will largely contribute to the efficiency of our general organisation. We have, as you know, our own freehold wharf and offices at Halifax, and we have now under contemplation the erection of a wharf at St. Johns, Newfoundland, to provide for the larger class of steamers which we now employ in that service. The interest which your company has in the Dutch Company—Furness Scheepwart en Agentuur Maatschappij—has proved very satisfactory. That company will own a dozen steamers when the two large steamers, exceeding 8,000 tons deadweight, which are being built here on the North-east Coast, have been delivered. The development of this business has in every way exceeded the anticipations of your Board. That company not only owns a fleet of steamers, but has acquired two of the largest discharging elevators in the the anticipations of your Board. That company not only owns a fleet of steamers, but has acquired two of the largest discharging elevators in the world, thus ensuring, not only for their own vessels and the vessels owned by your company, but also for the steamers entrusted to their care, the most rapid possible dispatch. They have other large developments in view, which I hope I will be able, on a subsequent occasion, to refer to as being accomplished. As you will have seen from the report, your company has taken a favourable opportunity to dispose of some of its older vessels.

The fleet of steamers controlled by us, including those owned by our subsidiary companies, has been maintained in a high state of efficiency, and having regard to the additions which we have made to our reserve fund, your Board has decided to take a larger measure of its own insurance.

#### THE GENERAL OUTLOOK.

"We can, of course, only speak with any degree of certainty in regard to our own developments and the developments of those numerous companies which we entirely control—but I am sure you will expect me to make some reference to the general outlook. I am glad to say that the strike which was threatened in the shipyards has apparently been averted. Such a strike would have caused considerable dislocation of trade, and in common with other companies, our interests would have suffered. The unsettled conditions abroad mainly owing to the war are causing ununsettled conditions abroad, mainly owing to the war, are causing un-easiness in the minds of the investing public. The numerous invitations which have recently been made for the subscription of new issues have not been generously responded to, with the result that it leaves the financial been generously responded to, with the result that it leaves the maintain world in a state of some uncertainty. This, and the causes above-mentioned, have influenced your directors in pursuing what they regard as a cautious policy, and, while not taking in any sense of the word, a pessimistic view of the situation, they are, as you will see from the balance-sheet, keeping a larger proportion of their resources liquid. Freights, which ruled at a very high level last year, are lower, but if the crop conditions abroad are satisfactory in the autumn, I believe we shall again have freights on a higher basis than at present. The equipment of your company for purposes of trading was never as good as it is to-day, and whilst we cannot control external conditions, we can, and we will, conserve the resources of the company, so that every favourable opportunity may be taken to get the best out of prevailing circumstances.

#### RETURNS FROM INVESTMENTS.

"It will be a pleasure to you to know that the dividends from our investments so far received on account of the present year exceed those for the corresponding period of last year, and that the steamers' trading results are about the same. I now move the adoption of the report and accounts for the past year."

Mr. F. W. Lewis, in formally seconding the adoption of the report and

Mr. F. W. Lewis, in formally seconding the adoption of the report and accounts, said he desired to associate himself with all that had been said in regard to the lamentable loss they had sustained in the death of the late Chairman. He had built up a splendid business, and all those now connected with it were certain that as time went on it would increase in magnitude and importance. Their new Chairman (Sir Stephen Furness) might well be proud to follow in the footsteps of his distinguished predecessor, and he would like to take this opportunity of assuring him that his colleagues would bestow upon him the same loyalty that they had extended for so many years to their late Chairman. As far as the accounts were concerned, the Chairman had dealt very fully with them, and he was sure the shareholders would approve of the conservative policy of the

On being put to the meeting, the resolution was carried unanimously.

On the motion of the Right Hon. Lord Furness, seconded by Mr. R.

E. Burnett, the election of Mr. David Cooke on the directorate was con-

The re-election of the retiring directors, Sir Stephen Furness, Lord Furness and Mr. R. J. Thompson was carried unanimously, on the motion of Mr. R. W. Vick, seconded by Mr. A. S. Purdon.

The auditors, Messrs. W. T. Walton and Son, were re-elected.

A hearty vote of thanks to the Chairman terminated the proceedings.



WRITER in a current publication says of the preparation and construc-tion of advertising "copy":

No feature calls for better art work, more faultless wording, more painstaking care of detail than does advertising. The necessity for saying much in a few words and for presenting facts strikingly has developed among those making a profession of writing adver-tisements a clear and forceful use of English that might be studied with profit by the

¶ Did that phase of advertising ever occur to you as you read the ads. in "Country Life"?

¶ It's surprising how much real knowledge may be derived from the advertising matter that appears in the weekly newspaper.





the House of Commons by Sir Clement Kinloch Cook, M.P., what quantity the House of Commons by Sir Clement Kinloch Cook, M.P., what quantity of British Columbia canned fruit was imported into England; but it appears that the amount, if any, is at present so small as not to admit of separate classification. The extensive establishment of local canneries in British Columbia will alter all that. As soon as there is a sufficiency of British Columbia canned fruit to supply the demands of the English market, it is proposed to publish periodically a list of all the retailers in the various towns of British public to ask for the British Columbia produce in preference to that British public to ask for the British Columbia produce in preference to that from California—call it Colonial Preference if you will, but it certainly should benefit the British Columbia fruit farmer. I shall be glad to answer any enquiries and to correspond with anyone interested in the subject.—V. S. REDMAYNE (Author of "Fruit Farming on the Dry Belt of British Columbia"), 13, Waterloo Place, Pall Mall, S.W.

#### SOME RECENT NOVELS.

The Ffolliots of Redmarley, by L. Allen Harker. (John Murray.) In The Folliots of Redmarkey such tale as there is to tell is a matter of minor importance beside the outstanding fact that here is a most delightful family with whom we are asked to become intimate without any preliminary nonsense There are half a dozen or so of the Ffolliots, and they are all good company. We meet Mary, the eldest daughter, quite by chance when Eloquent Gallup, son of the late Abel Gallup, outfitter, of Marlehouse, trespassing in Redmarley Woods and spouting a Liberal speech, trips on his way and sits down in a "young pond," where Mary discovers him. Mary is a good sort and as straight as a die, and Eloquent—returned to Marlehouse, his native place, to contest the seat as Liberal candidate—falls gravely and ponderously in love with the daughter of the Squire. Needless to say, there is trouble ahead for the intruder; he holds his own all along the line, and, if he does not succeed in winning Mary, he at any rate relinquishes her with a courage that becomes him. The story is told with humour and tenderness, and is a most attractive and charming

The Power Behind, by M. P. Willcocks. (Hutchinson and Co.)
MISS M. P. WILLCOCKS, in *The Power Behind*, shows herself a writer with a great deal to say and some difficulty in compressing her matter. There is a considerable amount of pleasure to be found in following the story of Sophie Revel, however, in spite of this, especially after she has become Sophie Botterill. That part of the novel which deals with Sophie's marriage to Moysey Botterill is by far the best, though in Tabitha's interference beforehand between the pair there seems to be a great fuss about nothing, more especially as Miss while one out of keeping with the simplicity of the class of which she writes. For instance, we read that it was "Not that she saw her son as a bashaw; it was rather that in the grip of a primal instinct he would fight with the sincerity of a tiger." With the three generations of Botterills presented to us Miss Willcocks is most at home; something of her earlier novels seems, with them, to have thrust its way in to remind us of benefits that are not forgotten.

Perris of the Cherry Trees, by J. S. Fletcher. (Eveleigh Nash.) SINGULARLY dramatic and compelling is Perris of the Cherry Trees, a novel ommon excellence, in which construction and style are both admirable. Mr. J. S. Fletcher's story is laid in a Yorkshire village, and his characters are drawn from those native to that part of the country. His theme is an ordinary one, the love of one man for the wife of another; but the consequences are unusual and yet entirely natural. Out of these consequences evolve the pathetic and tragic figure of Abel Perris, a weakling who, as it happens, shows himself capable of the most supreme self-sacrifice when put to the test. Though the interest would seem to be mainly directed to the couple, Rhoda Perris and Mark Taffendale, to Abel Perris, in the background, is allotted the principal role; and at the book's end we appreciate fully the care Mr. Fletcher has expended so successfully on this study in characterisation. The book is a strong one, the situations are effectively and firmly handled, and Mr. Fletcher is to be congratulated upon an able performance.

Knockinscreen Days, by Jackson C. Clark. (Methuen.)
MAKING a very good start in the first half-dozen chapters, Knockinscreen
Days rouses expectations which it fails to realise. The hopeful reader who has gathered up the thread of his hero's life, as placed in his hands by that hero himself, feels that he knows what is coming when to Knockvarra Lodge, in the little Ulster village of Knockinscreen, come two visitors, Billy Devine and Mary Bellenden, guests of Peter Carmichael and his sister Kate. But events do not turn out as anticipated, and no love-story ensues, this being a radical mistake on the part of an author who set out so well.

The Common Chord, by Phyllis Bottome. (Martin Secker.)

AN extremely clever novel, The Common Chord leads off with a young Frenchman, unusually sophisticated, faced by his inheritance of a small fortune left to him by an English aunt, with the proviso that the youth make his home in England. Jean d'Ucelle, a budding musical genius, accepted by Parisians of account as singularly gifted and promising, comes over to England to the funeral of his benefactor, and, in spite of a previous determination to the contrary, decides to accept the three thousand pounds. This decision, in part attributable to his meeting with an English girl of advanced views and attractive manners, leads to his friendship for Jimmy Armstrong, and also to Jean's composing the "fire music" for Sonia Trebatsky, the great Russian dancer who takes London by storm. With considerable insight Miss Phyllis Bottome portrays for us the mercurial temperament of Jean d'Ucelle, his capacity for cruelty, selfishness, devotion and the passionate singleness of his love for art. Inevitably he is born to outshine the faithful and honest Jimmy, to take from him all that makes life worth living—not viciously or of set purpose, it must be owned-and to give little enough in return, while still holding the hearts those he plunders with such engaging willingness to play the gam a clever portrait, artistic, imaginative and well wrought.

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#### THE STEWARD PRISM BINOGULARS.



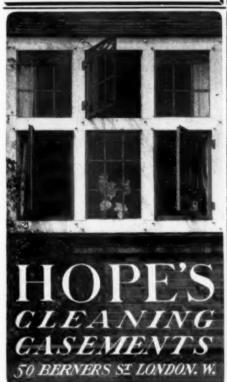
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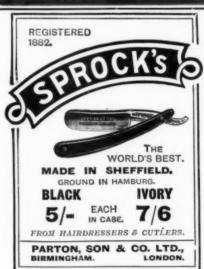
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SEVENTY-NINTH ANNUAL REPORT

presented to the Shareholders at the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, held at the Head Office of the Bank, at 39, Threadneedle Street, London, on Wednesday, the 23rd day of July, 1913, at Twelve o'clock noon.

The Gross Profit for the Twelve months ending 30th June, 1913, after making provision for bad and doubtful debts, and deducting Rebate on Bills current, amounts to

From which has been deducted the General Expenditure of the Company, including Directors' allowances and annutics to retired officers, amounting to Leaving a net profit of . . . To which has to be added the balance of profit carried forward at 30th June, 1912 . . . Together .. .. 410,000 0 0 .. .. 89,931 3 8 Leaving to be carried forward to next account . . . .

#### BALANCE SHEET, June 30th, 1913

LIABILITIES.

Investments. 100,000 0 0
Officers' Superannuation Fund 10,000 0 0
A10,000 0 0
NOTE.—In accordance with the arrang ment publicly announced in August, 1911, the Bank inconjunction with the Bank of England and other Romes, limited. This statement of Liabilities does not include the Bank's Guarantee of £98,286 to the Yorkshire Penny Fank.

Bills discounted, loans and other accounts 23,751,522 0 0
Liability of Customers for acceptances, as per contra.
Liability of Customers for Endorsements, as 28,948 4 10
Banking premises in London and country at cost, less amounts written off for depreciation.

£43,671,404 0 9

EDWD. B. MERRIMAN, W. GARFIT, G. BUTLER LLOYD,

£43,671,404 0 G. A. HARVEY, E. D. VAISEY, ED. SMITH, Chief Accountant,

AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE SHAREHOLDERS. AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE SHAREHOLDERS.

We have obtained all the information and explanations we have required, and having satisfied ourselves of the correctnes of the Cash Balances, and examined the Securities held against the Money at Call and Short Notice, and those representing the investments of the Bank, and having examined the foregoing Balance Sheet and Profit and Loss Account, and compared them with the Books at the Head Office, and with the certified Returns from the Branches, we are of opinion that the Balance Sheet is properly drawn up so as to exhibit a true and correct view of the state of the Bank's affairs, according to the best of our information and the explanations given to us, and as shown by the Books of the Bank.

TURQUAND, YOUNGS & CO., Auditors.



Sides of 45th, Unsmoked, 9|d, per lb. Smoked 9|d, per lb. RAIL PAID. SEND FOR SAMPLE PIECE. 12 lb. at 10|d, lb. Rail Paid.

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are under the impression that cuttings of both greenhouse and hardy HEATHS are difficult to root. This, however, is quite a mistake and

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#### **GARDEN ORNAMENTS**

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#### CROOUET.

T the Champion Cup Meeting at Roehampton last week, a further and more conclusive trial was given to the either ball" rule, and it will be interesting to see in what light those who were responsible for its introduction will regard the experience. Its chief asset is undoubtedly the marked increase in the sporting side of the game, by improving the chances of the out-player; but whether this desideratum has been attained at too great a cost, viz., the almost complete revolution in the tactics of the game as well as the practical annihilation of the fascinating art of peeling, is certainly open to doubt. It is not changes in legislation that croquet stands in need of so much as the prevention of the easy conditions as found in the perfect lawns on which the classic events are played for. Unfortunately, this question is one that is very difficult to tackle under the existing state of affairs. It was generally conceded at the start of the Champion Cup that, though stronger players in the aggregate have often been seen in this competition, a more level lot of exponents have never opposed each other than on the present occasion, and this idea was verified to the letter by the comparatively even scores of the ten competitors at the finish. No other result than a win for Mr. Cyril Corbally would have been quite satisfactory, as this brilliant Irishman-now that his fellowcountryman, Mr. C. L. O'Callaghan, has been rendered hors de combat through indisposition-has proved himself as standing out alone. Lacking as he does the stamina that is essential in a contest of this description, wherein as many as eighteen rounds are played. Mr. Corbally's success was all the more noteworthy, and though he only carried off the honours after a tie with the Australian, Mr. J. Tuckett, it was nothing but a piece of bad luck in his ball rolling out of position after having apparently come to a standstill that gave the visitor a second chance to win outright. But for a bad start-he only won three matches out of his first eight rounds-Mr. J. Tuckett, whose play was fully on a par with that of the winner, might have secured a Champion Cup at the first time of asking, and it seems safe to predict on his next visit to this country that some of the highest croquet honours may be in store for him. Mr. Tuckett is such a quick and enterprising player that a win for him in a classic event would be most popular. The holder, Mr. P. D. Mathews, made a bold bid to repeat his success of last year, but was never able to recover from the inauspicious beginning he made in losing his first three games. Few, if any, of the competitors played such consistent and steady croquet as Mr. H. W. J. Snell, and had he not been unfortunate in finding more than one opponent who gave him no chance, he might have filled a higher position than fourth. Although failing to reproduce the good form that enabled him to win the Gentlemen's Gold Medal, Mr. Hugh Wright has every reason to be satisfied with his display, and in finishing on a par with the last named, Lord Tollemache and Mr. C. N. Paget-both of whom were new to the competition-amply justified their selection. But for striking a had patch during the closing stages, Mr. W. W. S. Escott would have done even better: but, even as it was, the Devonshire player proved his claims by winning eight games. Mr. R. C. Longworth did fairly well without showing his best form at any period, and Lady Julian Parr has no reason to be dissatisfied with the doubtful honours of the wooden spoon falling to her share in such distinguished company.

Never has there been a more interesting Ladies' Champion Cup held than that of last week, and it speaks well for the standard of play that, although more than one of the competitors were new to the "either ball" rule, the games were not appreciably longer than usual. Demanding as it does the question of stamina in no mean degree, steadiness as opposed to brilliancy is the more valuable asset of the two, and this was clearly shown by the success of Mrs. W. P. Blood, as this lady not only made good use of her opportunities, but her own failures were fewer than those of any other lady. In following up her win in the Ladies' Gold Medal so quickly, Mrs. Blood has proved herself to be the most consistent lady player of the season. In the contest proper, Miss E. D. B. Simeonwhose play is a combination of steadiness and brilliancy-tied for first place, but her "nerves" failed her in the final round. The holder, Miss D. M. Standring, one of our most interesting players, forfeited, as it turned out, all chance of repeating her last year's win by losing two matches on the first day. Lady Marcia Jocelyn was too inconsistent to ever threaten danger after the opening stage, but in finishing fifth Mrs. W. H. Hope did much better than had been expected. The victim of more than her share of bad luck, Miss E. Reid-who belongs to the bold and dashing typehad to be content with occupying a more humble position

than was her due.

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#### AGRICULTURAL NOTES

SERUM TREATMENT FOR SWINE FEVER.

| ITHIN the last few days there have been some startling developments in connection with swine Mr. Harris of Calne, of the well-known fever. firm of bacon curers, wrote a letter to the Press giving a full account of his experiences in Holland,

and this has led to questions in Parliament, the answers to which will arouse keen interest, and have already set people wondering. The statements put forward by Mr. Harris were, briefly, as follows: For three years past they have been using a certain serum in Holland which has rendered the swine treated with it immune They enforce no restrictions on movement, against swine fever. close no markets or fairs and slaughter no animals, whether infected or in contact. When an outbreak occurs, they simply send for the veterinary surgeon, who inoculates the animals in the throat. They are well in a few days, and are then immune for life. The result of this policy has been that the disease is no longer feared, either by the farmers or by the authorities, and, best of all, outbreaks now very seldom occur. On July 14th questions were put down to the President of the Board of Agriculture asking him if he was aware or these things, and whether, in view of the fact that the stamping-out system in England had not been altogether successful, he would introduce the serum treatment here. The Minister's reply was that he had had his attention called to some remarkable reports, and in the absence of any precise official information, swine fever in Holland not being what they would describe as a scheduled disease, he immediately directed a special enquiry to be made. This would take some time, but there would be no unnecessary delay. It is evident from this reply that the remarkable reports" have been a long time reaching the ears of our British authorities, for while Mr. Runciman says they had been only "recently" brought to his notice, the alleged successful treatment has been going on in Holland for three years, and for an indefinite time in Hungary before that! If the facts are established beyond question by the official enquiry now set on foot, it may be taken for granted that our whole attitude towards this disease will undergo a radical change. Should that happen, the satisfaction and relief which will be felt by all concerned in this country will be so great that they will forget to enquire why they have been allowed to remain in a slough of despond when other countries have found the way out.

#### FIRST RESULTS OF THE TUBERCULOSIS ORDER.

The new Order came into force on May 1st, and by June 24th had received some eight weeks' trial. At the instance of Mr. W. Field, M.P., we have some official information as to its first results, which should be of interest to every farmer, especially to those milk producers of the smaller class who have, with good reason, regarded the recent changes with much apprehension. Up to Midsummer the total notifications to the local authorities were 1,747, or on the average 218 per week. Of these, 1,210 were notified by the owners and 537 by veterinary inspectors and from other sources. The number of animals slaughtered was 965, but what happened to the remainder does not clearly appear. The amount of compensation paid or due to owners was £2,215 8s., which works out at £2 6s. per head. The valuations were as follows: £9 per head on the basis of the animals being healthy, and £5 on the basis of their being diseased. The cost to the local authorities for inspection, post mortem examinations and slaughtering amounted to £2,719, or £2 16s. 4d. per head. These facts are regarded by those who have studied them as very serious, pointing as they do to the enormous prevalence of tuberculosis in our herds. Of the animals notified, no less than 95 per cent. were females, and this will at once excite suspicion in connection with the milk supply and the state of confinement in which many dairy herds are kept; but it must be noted that at present the attention of the authorities is chiefly directed to the state of dairy cattle. We can only hope that the eyes of cattle owners will be quickly opened to their danger, and that some system of testing and isolation of reacting animals will be universally adopted. In Denmark they have formed clubs, all the members of which are pledged to use the tuberculin test and divide those affected from the healthy portion. "Necessity is the mother of invention," and those who have the health of the population and the welfare of agriculture at heart could scarcely be better employed than in thinking out a definite scheme for effectually dealing with the evil.

#### TO REDUCE THE BLUE-BOTTLE PLAGUE.

The Committee of the Chew Stoke Harvest Home have certainly worked out a capital method for dealing with the common meat or blow fly. It has offered a set of prizes to children under twelve years of age who shall exhibit the largest number of blue-bottle flies. Already

several thousands have been collected, and captures are reported as becoming increasingly difficult.

#### CORRESPONDENCE.

THE ORIGIN OF WELSH CATTLE.

SIR,—To a foreign naturalist, Dr. Paul Saborsky, belongs the credit of having given to the world a thoroughly complete account of all that is known with regard to Welsh black cattle, which has just been published in an Austrian scientific journal, Milleilungen der Landwirtschaftlichen Lehrkanzeln der k. k. Hochschule /für Bodenkultur, Vol. I., part 41. Welsh cattle, it is scarcely necessary to mention, are represented by two distinct strains or sub-breeds, namely, the Southern strain, as typified by the Pembrokes, and the Northern strain, as bred in Carstrain, as typined by the Pembrokes, and the Northern strain, as bred in Carnarvonshire, Anglesey and Merionethshire. To maintain these two types in their original purity, the author considers, is a matter to which the attention of breeders should be specially directed; and he strongly deprecates the obliteration of their distinctive characteristics by crossing. As to the high value of the breed, both for the dairy and the table, Dr. Saborsky is very emphatic; an important feature in Welsh cattle being their comparative immunity to epidemic diseases. In spite, however, of these advantages, Welsh cattle have hitherto found but little favour from foreign buyers, although they have been introduced, and apparently with satisfactory results, into South Africa. Naturalists will be more particularly interested in the author's views with regard to the origin of Welsh black cattle. That they are an extremely ancient breed is proved by historical evidence; and in nearly all features of their organisation they display marked signs of near kinship with the extinct wild ox, or aurochs, which was also black. On the other hand, certain features in the skull are suggestive of relationship to the so-called Celtic shorthorn of the Prehistoric Age, which at first sight might be regarded as an indication that Welsh cattle are not a purebred stock. The author is, however, of opinion that these shorthorn resem-blances may be explained by their existence in the local race of the aurochs, from which Welsh cattle apparently originated. Dr. Saborsky strongly endorses the view that these cattle are nearly related to the white park breeds, such as the Chillingham and Chartley, all of which display a strong tendency to throw black calves; and he suggests that in early days the whole of the native domesticated cattle of the British Isles retained the black coat of the aurochs. How easily the sable of the Pembrokes is exchanged for white is exemplified by the white strain of the latter maintained by Mr. Mathias at Lamphey Court, Pembrokeshire.-R. L.

#### TOWN & COUNTRY. FOR

A SCHOOL FOR ENGINEERS.

HE problem of Latin and Greek versus a technical education is one which the parents of boys destined for an active career are often called upon to solve. It seems absurd that a boy who will eventually become an engineer, for example, should spend the most receptive years of his life in grinding at alien subjects. The "modern side" of classic schools, on the other hand, is frequently modern side of classic schools, on the other hand, is frequently too amateurish to serve any practical purpose, yet the social, educative and disciplinary influence of the public school is almost essential to the boy's later career. What is required is something combining the public school training with a scientific education. This want is now supplied to a limited extent by Seafield Park College at Crofton, near Fareham, in Hampshire. Seafield was founded in 1886 for the express purpose of supplementing the College at Crofton, near Fareham, in Hampshire. Seafield Park College at Crofton, near Fareham, in Hampshire. Seafield was founded in 1889 for the express purpose of supplementing the work of the public schools by giving facilities for the study of engineering in well-equipped laboratories and workshops. Theory and practice are taught side by side; engineers and mechanics having charge of the workshops, while science masters instruct in theory and bookwork. The several branches of engineering are the main objectives of the curriculum, but boys are also prepared for the Indian Public Works Department, the Army Qualifying, Woolwich and Sandhurst, the Universities and the professions. The course, in fact, is one combining the education of a thoroughly equipped technical college with the life of an English public school. The college itself is beautifully situated. It stands in its own grounds of eighty acres, extending to the foreshore of the Solent, and has half a mile of sea beach directly opposite Osborne, so that safe boating and bathing can be added to the usual games curriculum. The house, or rather houses, for another house has been added to the original mansion, are perfectly adapted to the requirements of a large school, and the other buildings, such as the mechanical, electrical, physical and chemical laboratories, the engineering workshops, dynamo-room, enginebuildings, such as the mechanical, electrical, physical and chemical laboratories, the engineering workshops, dynamo-room, engine-room and boiler-house, are quite separate. The terms are approxi-mately those of the public schools, with vacations of eight weeks in the summer, five at Christmas and four at Easter.

In the summer, five at Christmas and four at Laster.

LIGHT-WEIGHT HOMESPUNS FOR SUMMER WEAR.

It seems but a short while ago, though in reality it must be nearly a year, that we mentioned some light-weight homespuns intended particularly for ladies' wear and introduced by Messrs. Fraser and Sons of Scotch Warehouse, Perth, the sole proprietors. These cloths, the "Atholl" homespun and "Antler" tweed, have had an extraordinary success. Their lightness commended them at once to sportswomen who, while preferring Scotch homespuns for country to sportswomen who, while preferring Scotch homespuns for country wear, found the ordinary makes too heavy, and who took eagerly to a finer material which, at the same time, retained the natural appearance and quality of a rough Harris. The natural dye colourings, too, were greatly appreciated, and the fact that the cloths were absolutely exclusive and only to be obtained direct from the proprietors was another point in their favour. We would advise the contract that the cloths were absoluted the fact that the cloths were absoluted to the contract the contract that the cloths were absoluted the favour. our readers who have not tested the Fraser specialities to write to the firm for patterns of "Atholl" homespun and "Antler" tweed. Their width is 54in. and their respective prices 8s. 6d. and 5s. 6d., while, as some guide to the quantities required, four and a-quarter yards are sufficient to make a coat and skirt. OUNTRY LIFE, AL

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at Southend-en-Sea, are specially valuable to the sick and invalid poor of this large East Rad parish, who need FRESH AIR, MEDICAL ADVICE, and GOOD NURSING during convalencence. Doctor visits Homes. Many urgent cases are now availting admission, but our FUNDS are EXHAUSTED.—Cheques and orders to the Rev. T. GIVEN-WILSON. The Institute, Plaistow. London, E.

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#### A RECORD YEAR.

THE SIXTEENTH ANNUAL MEETING of George Newnes, Ltd., was held at the Savoy Hotel, on Wednesday, August 6th, Sir Frank Newnes, Bart., presiding.

The Chairman in moving the adoption of the report and accounts, said:—

My task to-day is an easy one. This has been the most successful year in the Company's history. The profits amount to £80,056 0s. 1d., being £32,777 10s. 1d. in excess of those for last year, and £11,756 in excess of the profits for 1904—the Company's previous record.

All departments have contributed to this happy state of affairs. We have been well supported by the reader and the advertiser; and last, but not least, by the bookseller and newsagent, by whom our goods have been marketed with much energy and skill. Both circulation and advertising returns show marked and gratifying increases. During the past year our publications have greatly increased in popularity with the reading public. Our old friend "Tit-Bits" has had a record year, the circulation having been larger than at any previous period in the history of the paper. The "Strand" Magazine has also been most successful, the sales having largely increased during the period under review. Before passing from the "Strand" I must allude to the remarkable series of articles and photographs which are now being published in relation to the Scott Expedition. The exclusive serial rights for the British Empire were purchased by the Editor from the late Captain Scott before he left England, and we are proud and honoured that the first detailed and personal narrative of this heroic expedition should have been given to the British public through the medium of the "Strand" Magazine. The articles which have appeared in the July and August Numbers have been eagerly read, and have occasioned an almost unprecedented demand for the "Strand." They are to be continued in the September and October issues.

Our other publications are doing well. "Country Life," in which we are largely interested, has had a record year. "The Ladies' Field" has most successfully maintained its position as the leading fashion paper in the English-speaking world. "The Grand Magazine," the "Wide World Magazine," the "Captain Magazine," and the "Woman at Home Magazine" have all done extremely well.

We have spared no pains to provide our patrons with the best reading matter available. You may be interested to know that at one time during the past year we were publishing simultaneously in serial form important novels by no less than five of the greatest fiction writers in the English language, viz.: A serial by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle in the "Strand," one by Mr. H. G. Wells in the "Grand," one by Miss Mary Cholmondeley in "Country Life," one by Mr. E. F. Benson in the "Ladies' Field," and one by Baroness Orczy in the "Woman at Home Magazine." I think I am justified in saying that our literary menu for the coming year will show no decline, and we are about to introduce some novel methods of illustration which will still further enhance the popularity of the "Strand."

I have already told you that our advertisement returns have shown marked and gratifying increases. I might if I had time give you some interesting figures showing the great increases which have taken place during the past year in the number and importance of the advertisements appearing in our various publications, but I will not burden you with these details, which we hope to publish in another and more suitable form later on. I will only say that the figures are very remarkable and very satisfactory. There is no doubt that the advertiser realises that whilst our publications are read by all sections of the community we comprise amongst our readers practically the whole of the people who have money to spend on things other than the bare necessaries of life.

For the purposes of our business it is interesting to note that of the 400,000 adults who died in the United Kingdom last year 355,000 left nothing, and that the other 45,000 left £276,000,000.

I think I may safely say that practically every member of the class from which the 45,000 were drawn is a reader of one or more of our publications. Of course, numerically, the propertied classes form only a small proportion of our millions of readers in all parts of the world, but they are a very important section of the public for the advertiser, who desires to reach those members of the community who have money to spend.

A short while ago a well-known advertiser told one of my colleagues a little incident which will illustrate my meaning. A gentleman called at his establishment and showed one of the salesmen an advertisement

cut from one of our publications. He enquired the price of the article advertised, and before he left gave orders amounting to £6,000. Of course this is an exceptional case, but it shows the value of advertising in the right sort of medium. Another incident may be of interest to you. A short time ago our Advertisement Manager received a letter from a leading firm of advertisers in which they stated that in response to an advertisement in the "Strand Magazine" they had received enquiries from persons resident in no less than thirty-three different Colonies and foreign countries.

There is another reason for the huge and growing advertising revenue enjoyed by our publications. The advertiser recognises that the magazine and sixpenny weekly have their special place in the world of publicity, not only because they circulate amongst the moneyed classes, but also because they are carefully read and remain in the home for a considerable period.

Our general publishing business has been brisk and prosperous. The "Newnes' Sixpenny Novels" continue to sell well, and our new publications have been most successful. The returns from this department naturally vary from year to year, having regard to the special features which we are offering from time to time.

Now to turn to the figures. First I will deal with the Balance Sheet. On the "Assets" side the most important and interesting items are the "Investments" and "Cash in Hand," which amount to no less than £145,000, being an increase of £40,000 over and above the amounts appearing in last year's Balance Sheet. The Investments are credited at market values as at 30th June, which has involved writing off £2,206. There has been very little change in the remaining items. The stock on hand amounts to £28,079 as against £34,221 last year. This is the lowest figure at which the stock has stood at any antecedent period, and is largely due to the drastic and stringent manner in which it has been written down in our books.

Passing to the "Liabilities" side of the account. "Sundry Creditors" stands at £92,143, as compared with £76,344 last year. The increase is of no importance. It is due to the fact that the amount includes some substantial items which did not fall to be paid until shortly after the 30th June, but which have since been discharged in the ordinary course of business.

I will now turn to the "Profit and Loss Account." The amount available, including £2,283 13s. 11d., last year's "Carry Forward," is £82,339 14s. 0d. Payment of the Preference Dividend and Interim Dividend on the Ordinary Shares has absorbed £35,000, which leaves a balance of £47,339 14s. 0d. This we propose to appropriate as follows:—We propose to pay a final dividend of 10 per cent. on the Ordinary Shares, making 15 per cent. for the year. This will absorb a further £20,000. Last year the dividend was 10 per cent. only. A higher dividend might have been recommended this year, but the Board preferred to adopt a conservative policy in that respect.

Of the £27,339 14s. 0d. which will remain after the payment of the ordinary dividend, we propose to set aside £25,000 to a "Dividend Equalisation Account," an amount which can be divided amongst the shareholders whenever the Board think it desirable in the interest of the Company that such distribution should take place.

If these recommendations are adopted the carry forward will be  $\pounds 2,339$  14s. 0d.

Continuing, the Chairman said: On behalf of the Board I again desire to thank the staff for the able and energetic manner in which they have performed their duties during the past year. The Directors have distributed the sum of 22,000 by way of special bonus amongst those members of the staff who are not entitled to commissions or bonuses under their agreements with the Company. The total sum paid in respect of commissions or bonuses is, of course, largely in excess of £2,000.

I do not think there is any other matter to which I need refer. You may, perhaps, want to know the views of the Board as to the future. I can only tell you that the year has opened well. Of course our business depends in a great measure upon the general state of trade throughout the country, but you may rest assured that the Board will do their best to present you with an equally satisfactory Profit and Loss Account next year.

Sir George Riddell seconded the motion for the adoption of the Report and Accounts; the resolution being put to the Meeting was carried unanimously. The retiring Directors and Auditor were re-elected, and a hearty vote of thanks to the Chairman terminated the proceedings.



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